

INSIDE THE 10 STRANGEST FADS IN HISTORY

HISTORY

REVEALED

BRINGING THE PAST TO LIFE
ISSUE 3 // MAY 2014 // £3.99

NEW!



STALINGRAD
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King's Speech

PLUS

BRITAIN BEFORE THE ROMANS
THE GREAT EXHIBITION
GERTRUDE, QUEEN
OF THE DESERT
JACOBITE RISINGS
SIMÓN BOLÍVAR

THE VIKINGS ARE COMING

Bloodthirsty heathens or intrepid explorers?
The inside story of the fearsome Northmen

Q&A

Which is England's oldest pub?
How old is the cat flap?
Which monarch reigned longest?

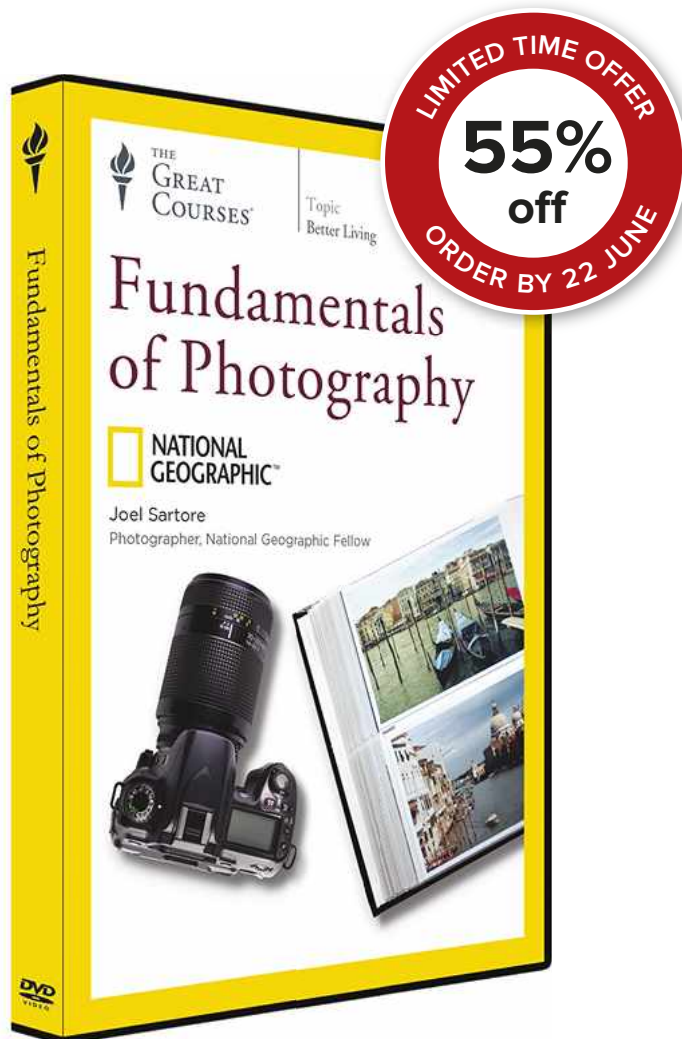
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Rarely seen photographs
from the American Civil War



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5. Aperture and Depth of Field
6. Light I—Found or Ambient Light
7. Light II—Colour and Intensity
8. Light III—Introduced Light
9. Composition I—Seeing Well
10. Composition II—Background and Perspective
11. Composition III—Framing and Layering
12. Let's Go to Work—Landscapes
13. Let's Go to Work—Wildlife
14. Let's Go to Work—People and Relationships
15. Let's Go to Work—From Mundane to Extraordinary
16. Let's Go to Work—Special Occasions
17. Let's Go to Work—Family Vacations
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They came from the north...



As the popularity of the current major exhibition at the British Museum testifies, **the Vikings are still big news**, many, many centuries after the last longship set sail. But how much do we really know about these people who came from the north? Were they

really the **bloodthirsty savages of legend**, or was there more to them than we've been led to believe? The answer is a bit of both, as we discover on page 26.

Switching to the Americas, we **retrace Jack Kerouac's footsteps** (and tyre marks) across the USA in his classic *On the Road* (p60), and explore the life of revolutionary hero Simón Bolívar (p52), **the great liberator** who led Latin America to independence from the Spanish Empire.

For the military history fan, **battles don't come bigger than Stalingrad** (p70), while the remarkable photographs from the American Civil War (p46) bring home the reality of the conflict. It's incredible to **look into the faces of soldiers 150 years ago**.

TAKE PART

How to join the discussion...

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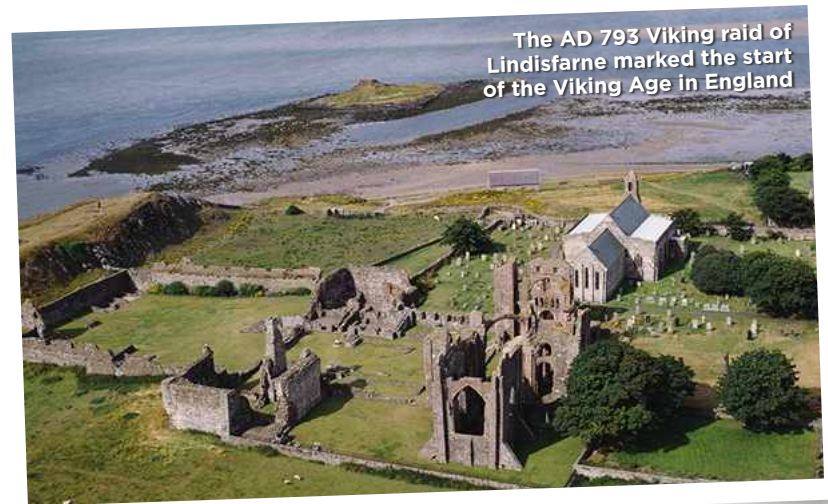


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The AD 793 Viking raid of Lindisfarne marked the start of the Viking Age in England

On a lighter note, we've enjoyed compiling our countdown of **the strangest fads in history** (p58). Do write in and let us know of any crazes you think warranted inclusion. In fact, be sure to keep your letters and emails coming whatever the subject. There's nothing we enjoy more than **hearing what you've thought** about the latest issue of *History Revealed*. Enjoy the issue!

Paul McGuinness
Editor

Don't miss our June issue, on sale 22 May 2014

ON THE COVER

Your key to the big stories...



58

70

88

16

22

79

52

77

66

26

46



26

THE VIKINGS

Going beyond their
bloodthirsty reputation

66

THE KING'S SPEECH
Revealing the truth
behind the Oscar winner

70

THE DARKEST HOUR
Why Stalingrad was the worst battle
in World War II, arguably in history

52

LATIN LIBERATOR
Meet the South American
hero, Simón Bolívar

TIME CAPSULE

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY...

- Snapshots**
Take a look at the big picture 8
- I Read the News Today**
May, through the ages 14
- COVER STORY Graphic History**
The Great Exhibition 16
- Yesterday's Papers**
Adolf Hitler commits suicide 18
- What Happened Next...**
Gun shots ring around the Vatican 20
- COVER STORY The Extraordinary Tale of...**
Queen of the Desert, Gertrude Bell 22

THE BIG STORY

- COVER STORY THE VIKINGS ARE COMING**
From the ninth to 11th centuries,
the Vikings ruled the seas 26
- The Ancient Scandinavians**
The lifestyles, beliefs and rituals
of these mighty explorers 28
- Timeline**
The landmark events that defined
the Viking Age 36
- Violent Vikings**
Did the 'wolves of war' deserve
their fearsome reputation? 38
- Get Hooked**
Find out what's on offer to immerse
yourself in the era of the Vikings 45

FEATURES

- DIG DEEP INTO HISTORY'S SECRETS**
- COVER STORY American Civil War**
In pictures: four years of bloodshed 46
- COVER STORY History Makers: Simón Bolívar**
The freedom fighter 52
- COVER STORY Top Ten: Strangest Fads**
Fancy an ornamental hermit? 58
- Great Adventures: On the Road**
Kerouac's road trip 60
- COVER STORY The Reel Story: The King's Speech**
The true story 66
- COVER STORY Battlefield: Stalingrad**
Is it the worst battle in history? 70

46

NORTH VS SOUTH
Remarkable photos from
the American Civil War

60

ON THE ROAD
Jack Kerouac's
American road trips

MAY 2014

CONTENTS

Q&A

COVER STORY **Ask the Experts**
Your questions answered..... 77

COVER STORY **In a Nutshell**
Who were the Jacobites?..... 79

Design of the Times
The equipment of an English archer..... 81

How did they...
Equip the
Bismarck?..... 82

HERE & NOW

On our Radar
This month's highlights..... 87

COVER STORY **How to visit...**
Iron Age hill forts..... 88

Books
The pick of the new releases..... 92

Sight & Sound
Best of TV, radio and online..... 94

EVERY ISSUE

Letters..... 6
Crossword..... 97
Be My Guest..... 98
Next Issue..... 86

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amazing subscription
offer on **page 24**



READERS' LETTERS

Get in touch – share your opinions on history and our magazine

A DIFFERENT VIEW ON SHACK'S REP

Congratulations on your new publication *History Revealed*. However, I must take issue with you over your article about Shackleton (March 2014) – to whom you refer as “A natural leader”.

Shackleton is the most over-rated explorer in history. He never achieved a single one of his aims. He frequently abandoned his men while dressing it up as “Don’t worry, chaps. I’m going to get help!” – Shackleton-speak for “If anyone’s going to get out of here, it’s going to be me.”

His famous turning back short of the Pole was nothing to do with “Death lay ahead and food behind” as he claimed, but the fact that Adams and Marshal refused to continue with him (they considered him to be “an old woman. Always panicking” and “hopeless”).

You pointed out that three men lost their lives with the Ross Sea Party, yet Shackleton continued to foster the myth that he had never lost a man.

He refused to recommend the *Endurance*’s carpenter for the Polar Medal, despite McNeish being right in objecting to dragging the ship’s boat across the ice, and preparing the *James Caird* for the crossing to South Georgia. Worsley, Captain of the *Endurance*, did not want Shackleton on board for the

“Shackleton frequently abandoned his men while dressing it up as ‘Don’t worry, chaps. I’m going to get help!’”

crossing and, even worse, Shackleton ordered Wild not to secure a store of penguin meat, as it would affect the moral of the other men left behind. Instead he said he would be back “in less than a fortnight” with a rescue ship. The result was to turn the threat of starvation into a reality.

Shackleton even ordered Hurley to doctor his photographs to make him

look better. As a result, the famous photograph of the men standing on the beach waving to Shackleton as he returns as their saviour is actually the photograph of him departing – with the rescue ship added

to the background.

As for his leadership, he believed that there should be just a single level of command: himself. Consequently, with no chain of command, the *Nimrod* expedition descended into chaos with factionalism, in-fighting, and debilitating power-struggles.

It was sometimes said of Shackleton that, “If you are in a hell of a hole, get down on your knees and pray for Shackleton.”

LETTER OF THE MONTH



Many of those who had known him would add, “Because it was Shackleton who got you in the hole in the first place.”

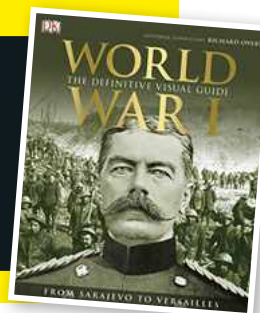
E C Coleman FRGS

Author of *The Royal Navy in Polar Exploration*
Bishop Norton, Lincolnshire

Editor replies:

Your insightful letter brought to mind the old adage that history is written by the victors. One thing’s for sure: hero or villain, Shackleton’s remains a fascinating tale a century on.

E C Coleman wins a copy of *World War I: The Definitive Visual Guide* by RG Grant. Published by DK, £25.



German soldiers march through the Channel Islands following the invasion of June 1940

NAZI INVASION

Concerning your Q&A, ‘When was Britain last invaded?’ (April 2014) – do the Channel Islands not count? They were invaded during World War II by the German army.

Shirley Law, via email

Editor replies: You’re absolutely right, the Channel Islands were indeed invaded and occupied in 1940 and weren’t liberated until after VE Day, in May 1945. If you visit the islands today, you can still see a number of German fortifications, as well as many monuments, memorials and

museums to remember this dark period in the islands’ history. However, the Channel Islands, although part of the United Kingdom, are separate – both politically and geographically – from Britain, the largest island in the UK, which is why this wasn’t included in the answer.

AN AVID READER

Having just read issue 2 of your excellent new *History Revealed*, I had to write to say I really love this great magazine and have read it from cover to cover.

It explains history in an easy and constructive way with no

complicated bits, along with some fantastic illustrations and photographs. I especially liked the World War I special and the Wild West outlaws.

I look forward to reading forthcoming issues.
Janet Mace, Canterbury, Kent

f Really enjoyed the first issue. What plans for the future? Have to say too, loved the Mount Vesuvius picture. A place I have been to many times on family trips to Italy, even a trip inside the crater.
Gabby Cancellio

TAKE YOUR MEDICINE

I wanted to say how much I am enjoying the first issue of your magazine. I especially liked the newspaper clipping on the Kray twins and hope the 'Yesterday's Papers' section will be a regular feature. I have found the magazine on the whole to be a real page turner!

One hope I have for future issues is perhaps something on the history of medicine. Either way I am very much looking forward to the next issue.

Thomas Pashley, via email

t @HistoryRevMag
Love the magazine!
Daughters got me a subscription as an early Mother's Day present. I'm a very happy mum!
Sue McGowan @McSueutd

PRINCIPLES OR PROFITS?

For the British, the ending of the slave trade was a simple business. With the discovery of the extraction of sugar from European-grown sugar beet, almost overnight the West Indies changed from being a source of profits to an expensive liability.

The simplest and cheapest method out of this situation was to free the slaves, who then no longer had to be fed and housed, and abandon the plantations (the derelict remains may still be seen today). Then there was the large financial compensation paid out to former slave and plantation owners. Ambitious politicians such as William Wilberforce soon founded the



anti-slavery cause, which didn't offend anybody important but still allowed the British government to take the moral high ground.

For American slavery, the situation was more complex. But even in the American South it is a matter of speculation just how long slavery would have lasted with increasing mechanisation.

There is one aspect of American slavery that seems unanswered, and this concerns the escaped slaves' 'underground railway'. Some of the participants in this escape route went to such elaborate lengths to conceal runaway slaves that it is an interesting speculation as to just what were the real motives for doing this. The northern booming industries were short on labour – were escaped slaves simply moved on into the northern industries to make up the labour deficit, and payments made to those concealing slaves?

In summary, slavery only ceased when it was no longer profitable, proving that money always talks loudest.

James Wells MRINA, via email

Editor replies: With *12 Years a Slave* (March 2014) scooping a raft of gongs at this year's awards ceremonies, it's clear that the subject of slavery remains a topic of much debate, and it's always interesting to listen to different perspectives.

It seems highly likely that there were a host of motivations for the eventual abolition of the slave trade, which will always be one of the darkest periods in

f The front cover on King Tut grabbed my attention initially but every article in the magazine was fab! I have already got my subscription sorted, I don't intend to miss an issue. Donna Norrie

KIND WORDS

I had to write to say thank you for publishing such a wonderful magazine. I have always loved history. I especially loved the article on Egypt. Once I started reading the mag I couldn't put it down. I will look out each month for the next one. Once again thank you very much, I can't wait for next month's!
Sandra Inman, Uckfield, Sussex

t Really enjoyed the first issue of @HistoryRevMag lots of amazing articles, on a wide range of topics. Cant wait till the next edition!
John Baxter @Johngbaxter

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HISTORY REVEALED

Bringing the past to life

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IMMEDIATE MEDIA





TIME CAPSULE

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY





SNAPSHOT

1927

LINDY COMES IN TO LAND

An estimated 150,000 people watch a single engine monoplane, *The Spirit of St. Louis*, approach a small airfield outside of Paris. Its 25-year-old American pilot, Charles Lindbergh, has just become the first person to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean, taking 33 hours and 30 minutes to get from New York to Paris. Lindbergh, or 'Lindy' as he became known, braved storms and fatigue without a radio, navigational equipment or a parachute to complete the flight. In doing so, he won \$25,000 and took his place in the aviation hall of fame.



SNAPSHOT

1967 **HEARTBREAK** **HOTEL**

Rock-and-roll deity Elvis Presley shares a tender moment with his bride Priscilla Beaulieu, after their eight-minute wedding ceremony at the Aladdin Hotel in Las Vegas. They met at a party at Elvis' home in Germany in 1959 where, despite being a mere 14 years old, Priscilla makes an instant impression on the King. Priscilla and Elvis stay in touch and marry eight years later. However, the marriage lasts just five years, during which time both begin affairs. They separate in 1972 and divorce the following year.





TIME CAPSULE
MAY





SNAPSHOT

1931 A QUICK TIPPLE...

The manufacture and sale of alcohol had been illegal in the United States since 1920. The sobering period, known as Prohibition, is wildly unpopular and blamed for causing a rise in organised crime. These labour union members, pictured in 1931, are protesting with a clear and simple message: we want beer. Prohibition is repealed in 1933.



"I READ THE NEWS TODAY..."

Weird and wonderful, it all happened in **May**

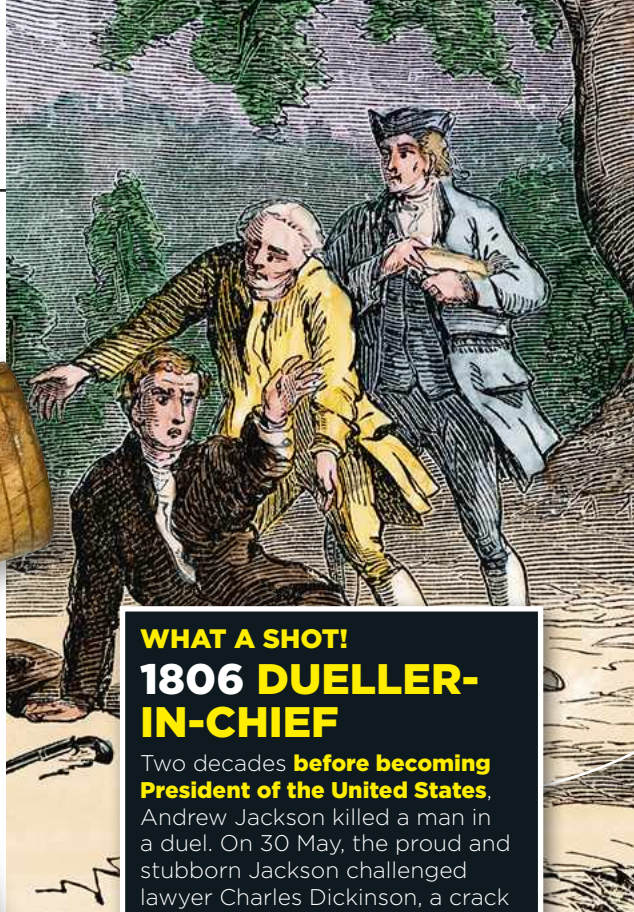
DARING THEFT

1671 BAD BLOOD

On 9 May, the British Crown Jewels were nearly stolen in a foolhardy robbery committed by the eccentric Irishman **Thomas 'Colonel' Blood**. By dressing as a parson, Blood had befriended the elderly guard, Talbot Edwards, and tricked him into taking him to see the jewels with three accomplices. They hit the kind old man with a mallet and stabbed him to keep him quiet.

The rogue Blood **turned the mallet on the crown** - flattening it in order to hide it under his cloak. Other treasures received similar unceremonious treatment, with the sceptre being cut in two and the orb being stuffed down one of the men's trousers.

Blood was captured and brought before King Charles II for punishment. As he had committed treason, he could have expected torture and hanging. Instead, **Charles was so impressed** by his audacity and cheeky behaviour that he awarded him an estate, money and a place at court!



WHAT A SHOT!

1806 DUELLER-IN-CHIEF

Two decades **before becoming President of the United States**, Andrew Jackson killed a man in a duel. On 30 May, the proud and stubborn Jackson challenged lawyer Charles Dickinson, a crack shot with a pistol, for **accusing his wife of bigamy**. Jackson actually let Dickinson fire first and was shot in the chest but still managed to return fire, killing his opponent. Dickinson's bullet remained in Jackson's body for the rest of his life.

UN-REST IN PEACE

1978 CHAPLIN'S BODY FOUND

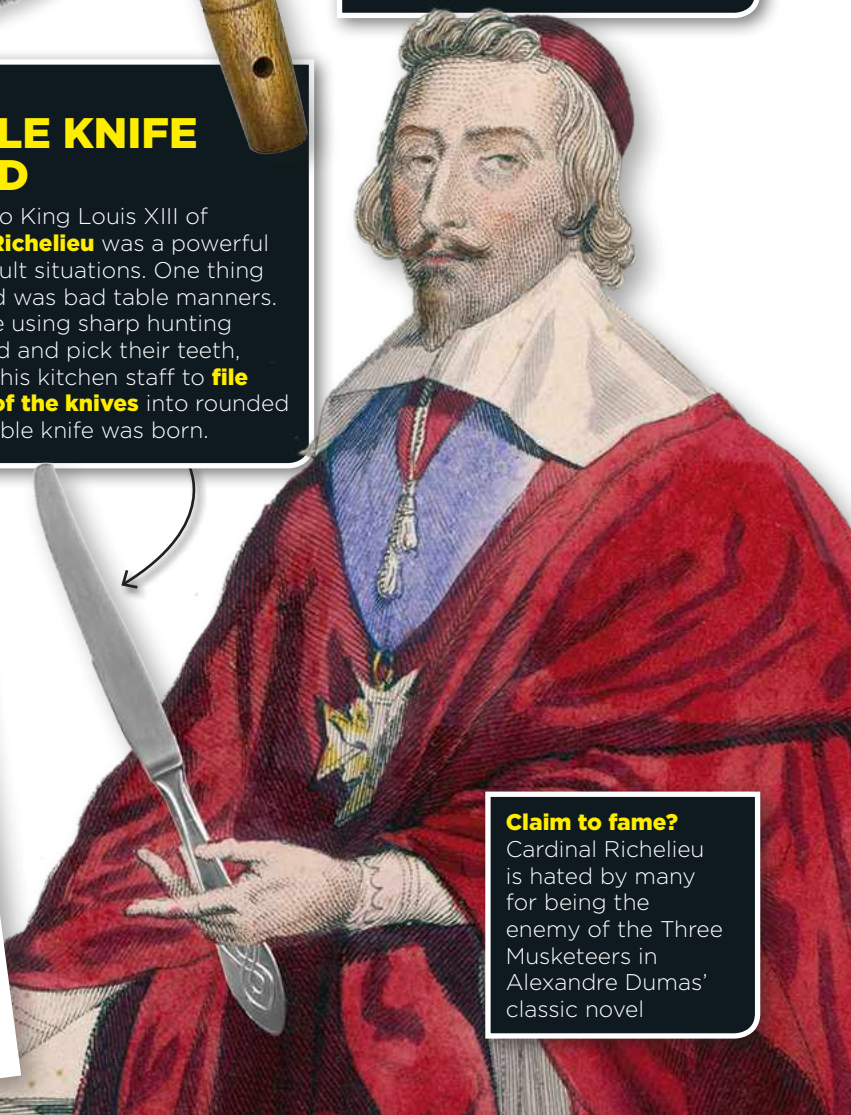
Nearly three months after it was stolen, the coffin of silent-film superstar Charlie Chaplin was found on 17 May. A ransom demand of £400,000 was sent to Chaplin's widow after his body was dug up from Corsier, Switzerland. She refused to pay, saying, "**Charlie would have thought it ridiculous.**" Two men were arrested for bodysnatching and disturbing the peace of the dead.



TO THE POINT

1637 TABLE KNIFE INVENTED

As chief minister to King Louis XIII of France, **Cardinal Richelieu** was a powerful man used to difficult situations. One thing he could not stand was bad table manners. Irritated by people using sharp hunting knives to stab food and pick their teeth, Richelieu ordered his kitchen staff to **file down the points of the knives** into rounded ends. *Voila!* The table knife was born.



Claim to fame?

Cardinal Richelieu is hated by many for being the enemy of the Three Musketeers in Alexandre Dumas' classic novel



DISNEY DEBUT 1928 HELLO, MICKEY

Although *Steamboat Willie* is considered the first appearance of Walt Disney's iconic character, Mickey Mouse actually made his debut six months earlier in the silent film **Plane Crazy**. Mickey builds his own airplane to try and imitate famous aviator Charles Lindbergh – and impress Minnie of course.



WEIRD WWII 1941 RUDOLF RED-FACED

In one of the strangest incidents of World War II, Hitler's deputy, Rudolf Hess, was forced to parachute into the Scottish countryside on 10 May after his Messerschmitt Bf 110 got into trouble. He was captured by farmers and spent the rest of the war behind bars.

Why Hess flew nearly 1,000 miles alone, only to **crash land on the outskirts of Eaglesham**, is a mystery. He may have been on a personal mission to broker peace with Britain ahead of Germany's invasion of Russia, he may have been sent by Hitler, or was he simply deserting?



...OH BOY"

May events that changed the world

29 MAY 1453 END OF THE ROMANS

The capture of Constantinople by the Ottoman forces marks what many see as the end of the Roman Empire.

14 MAY 1607 THE NEW WORLD

Jamestown, Virginia, becomes the first permanent English-speaking settlement in the Americas.

29 MAY 1660 RETURN OF THE KING

The monarchy in England is restored after 11 years, with Charles II ascending to the throne.

5 MAY 1862 CINCO DE MAYO

The Mexican army achieves a shock victory over the occupying French army at the Battle of Puebla.

6 MAY 1937 DISASTER IN THE SKIES

Tragedy hits when airship *Hindenburg* catches fire and is engulfed in flames in 35 seconds, killing 36 people.

7 MAY 1945 NAZI SURRENDER

Germany signs an unconditional surrender, effectively bringing an end to World War II in Europe.

29 MAY 1953 ON TOP OF THE WORLD

New Zealander Edmund Hillary and Nepalese Sherpa Tenzing Norgay are first to reach the summit of the world's highest mountain, Mount Everest.

AND FINALLY...

It was not until 1990 that the World Health Organisation de-classified homosexuality as a mental disorder. The declaration of 17 May read: "**Homosexuality is not a disease**, a disturbance or a perversion".

FIRST STAMP 1840 PAY A PENNY FOR POSTAGE

The world's first postage stamp, **the Penny Black**, was issued in Britain on 1 May. This was the first time a pre-payment method was introduced to the postal system. Before the Penny Black, the **receiver paid** for delivery of a letter, rather than the sender.




GRAPHIC HISTORY

A visual guide to events from the past


1851 THE WORLD FAIR UNVEILED


On 1 May, Queen Victoria opened *The Great Exhibition* in Knightsbridge – a palace made of glass, filled with exhibits from all around the world, for all of Britain to enjoy

EXHIBITS FROM THE BRITISH EMPIRE

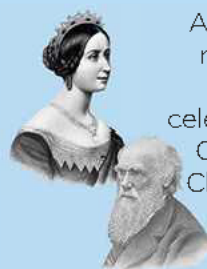
 Britain went all out to show off its industrial prowess, with vast hydraulic presses (one was the biggest exhibit of all, weighing in at over 1,140 tons), cotton spinning machines, a printing press and even a locomotive

 Sri Lanka (then Ceylon, under British rule) sent sweet cinnamon and other spices

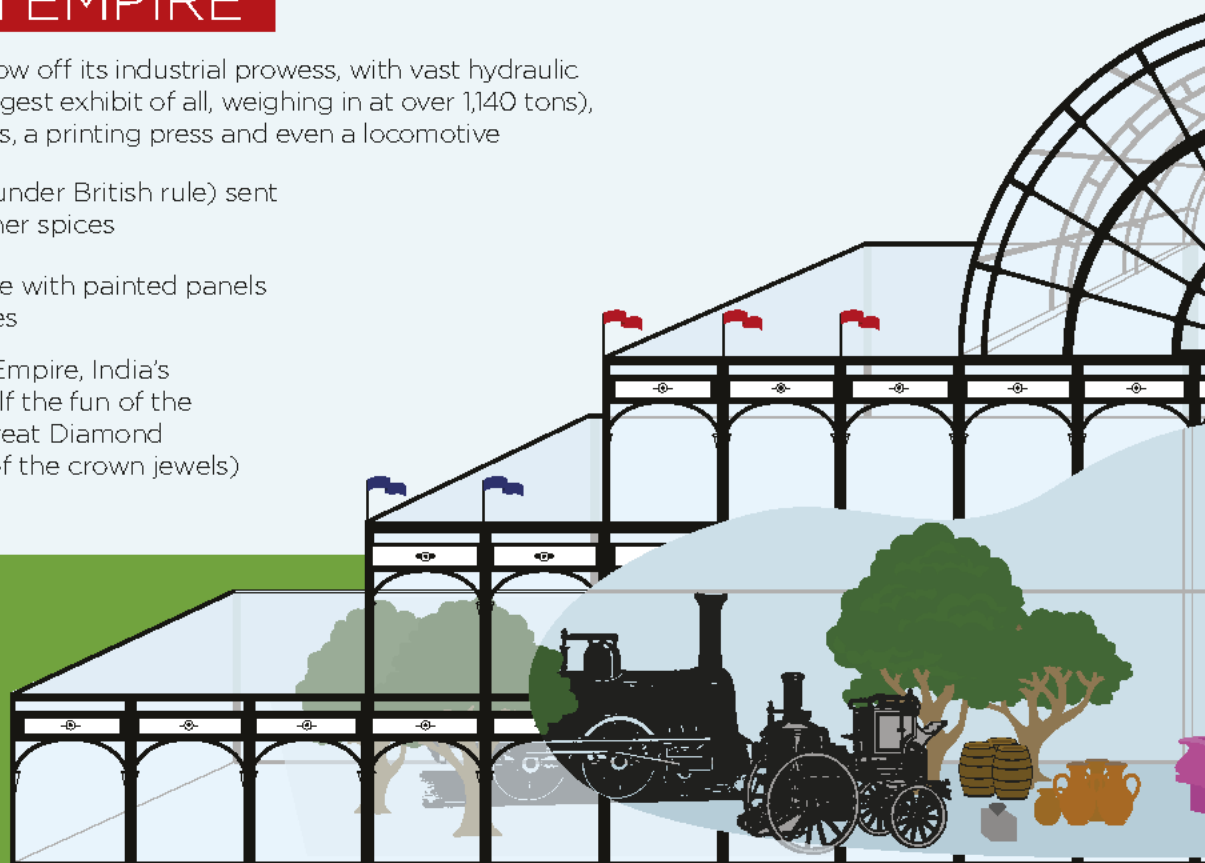
 Canada sent a fire engine with painted panels showing Canadian scenes

 The pride of the British Empire, India's display was deemed "half the fun of the show". It included the Great Diamond 'Koh-i-Noor' (now part of the crown jewels)

FAMOUS FACES



As well as the Queen and the royal children, a visitor could rub shoulders with many celebrities of the day, including Charles Darwin, Samuel Colt, Charles Dickens, Charlotte and Emily Brontë, George Eliot and Lewis Carroll.



IN NUMBERS

There were over
6,000,000
visitors in total
– over a fifth of
the population of
Britain at the time



100,000
objects on display,



14,000
contributors from
around the world



It ran
for over **5 MONTHS**,
closing on 11 October 1851

ANYONE FOR REFRESHMENTS?

1,000,000        

bottles of Schweppes soda were bought,

1,000,000        

Bath buns consumed,

along with **28,046**
sausage rolls, and

1,000
gallons of pickles!



THE CRYSTAL PALACE

It stood over 30 metres high and covered an area the size of 15 FOOTBALL PITCHES, allowing for more than 8 MILES OF DISPLAY TABLES

The palace used 300,000 sheets of plate glass, each measuring 1.3m x 25.3cm



After the fair, the palace was taken apart, moved, and rebuilt on Sydenham Hill, now known as Crystal Palace. The building was destroyed by fire in 1936

EXHIBITS FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD

The Russian exhibits turned up late, but were worth the wait. They included Cossack armour, furs and sledges



Tunisia displayed a range of impressive textiles



Chile's prize display was a 50kg gold nugget



France sent a tasteful array, including Sèvres porcelain, furniture and fashionable textiles



Switzerland showed off its gold watches



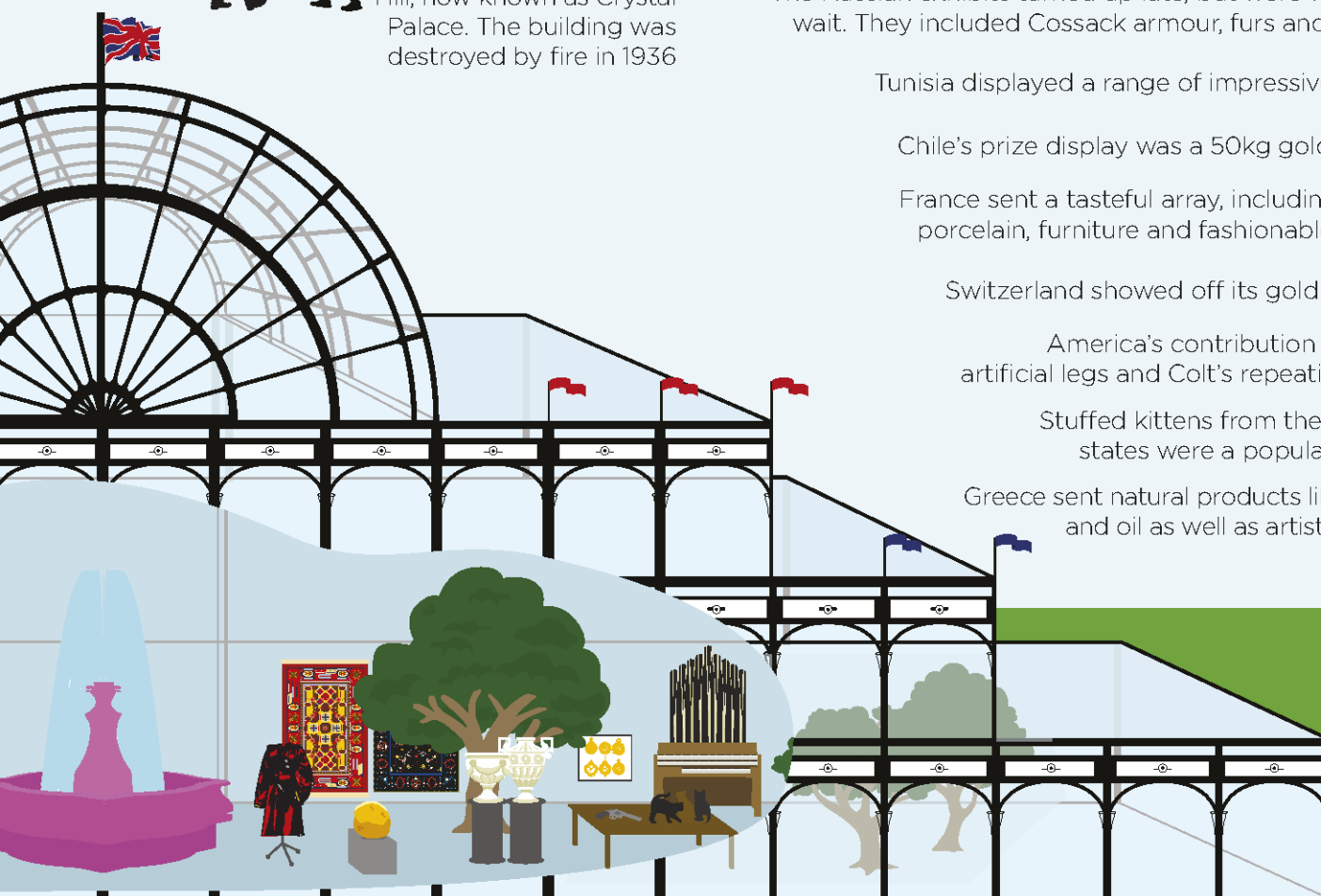
America's contribution included artificial legs and Colt's repeating pistol



Stuffed kittens from the German states were a popular display



Greece sent natural products like honey and oil as well as artistic pieces



"SPEND A PENNY"

Among the first public rest rooms ever, the Exhibition's facilities cost 1p to use, hence the phrase. On one very popular day,

11,171 people used the toilets.



OTHER EXHIBITS



To entertain guests, several church organs were installed, the largest of which was loaned from Winchester Cathedral.



A pink glass fountain stood in the central transept – it was over 8 metres tall



Living elm trees (and, reportedly, nesting sparrows) were encased in the building



Daily Mirror

MAY 2

Wednesday, May 2, 1945
No. 12,906 ONE PENNY
Registered at G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

U-Boat chief claims he's new Fuehrer, tells Huns to fight on

HITLER DEAD

"Fell at his post in battle of Berlin," says Nazi radio

HITLER is dead. He "fell for Germany" in the Reich Chancellery in Berlin yesterday afternoon, according to a broadcast from Hamburg at 10.30 last night.

Grand-Admiral Doenitz, 54-year-old inventor of U-Boat pack tactics, broadcast, claiming that Hitler had appointed him Fuehrer and Commander-in-Chief of the German Forces.

Doenitz came to the microphone and declared: "The military struggle continues with the aim of saving the German people from Bolshevism."

"We shall continue to defend ourselves against the Anglo-Americans just as long as they impede our aim."

A ghost voice broke in: "Rise against Doenitz. The struggle is not worth while if crime wins."

The new "Fuehrer" for how long?



Admiral Doenitz

Doenitz lived here—in an asylum!

WHEN 50-year-old Admiral Karl Doenitz, Germany's new Fuehrer, invented the U-boat pack, his order to crews was: "Sink without mercy."

He left his job as U-boat chief to become C-in-C. of the German Navy in February, and his technical brilliance was always a more formidable weapon than Hitler's intuition.

"The German Navy will fight to a finish," he has boasted.

During the last war he spent a considerable time in England—as a prisoner of war in a Manchester lunatic asylum.

The British sloop Snap Dragon fished him out of the Mediterranean after sinking his U-boat in 1917.

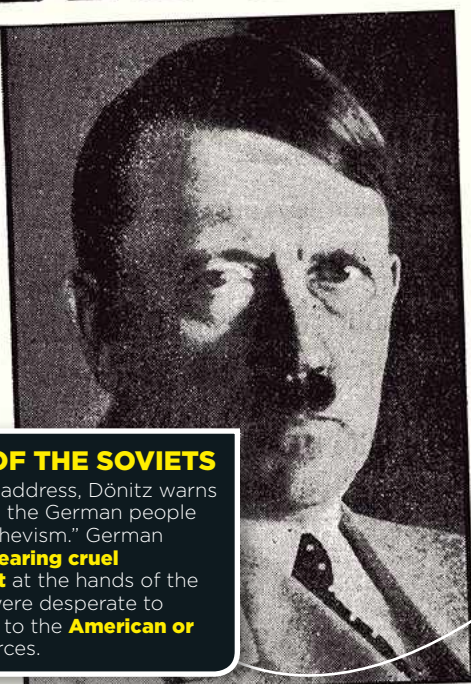
By feigning insanity after his capture he qualified for a place among the first batch of prisoners to be repatriated to Germany.

He has shown himself capable of bluntly admitting the worst and fighting tenaciously in spite of it. Admitting in 1942 that U-boats had abandoned the deep Atlantic for attacks off the American coast, he declared:

"Operating in American waters is no easy matter."

FEAR OF THE SOVIETS

In a radio address, Doenitz warns of "saving the German people from Bolshevism." German soldiers, fearing cruel treatment at the hands of the Soviets, were desperate to surrender to the American or British forces.



Adolf Hitler, leader of the Nazi Reich since January 30, 1933, the world's chief criminal, now dead at the age of fifty-six. His career appears on Pages 4 and 5.

MYSTERY OF HIMMLER PUZZLES THE CABINET

By BILL GREIG

THE unexpected appearance of Admiral Doenitz as Fuehrer came as a shock to members of the Cabinet who have been in touch with the surrender discussions at all stages.

It had been assumed that Himmler would automatically succeed Hitler, and that this would be followed by complete surrender. What has gone wrong is not yet clear, but the belief is expressed officially that nothing has happened likely to lengthen the war appreciably.

The unknown factor is still Himmler. There are two possibilities.

That fanatical Nazis—of whom Doenitz is a fair specimen—and one of the toughest—have seized Himmler to prevent surrender.

That Doenitz, as leader, is nothing more than a screen behind which still another attempt to negotiate will be

made with Himmler holding the real power.

The possibility of Himmler also being dead was one which received some support last night, and the Government was making anxious attempts to find out the truth through neutral sources.

Despite his fighting speech, Doenitz is not considered as really intending to stage a "fight to the last man" campaign. It is felt that behind his words lies no more than a desire to hearten the German people while he makes another effort . . . bound to be in vain . . . to get terms from the United Nations.

Doenitz and his friends may have believed that Himmler had succeeded in making a deal, safeguarding himself with

Britain and America. Regarding themselves double-crossed, they turned the tables on him.

That Himmler tried to save his own skin is now admitted.

It can now be revealed that it was Himmler and not Hitler who carried through all the arrangements regarding prisoners of war. He then gave the impression of being the real if not the titular head of Germany. At no time did Doenitz appear on the scene.

The possibility of Doenitz making some last desperate effort to hearten the Germans while he tries to negotiate is not overlooked here.

This might even include a renewal of air attacks on this country, but they could only be on a small scale.

The fact that the evacuation

of Norway and Denmark had apparently begun before Doenitz spoke suggests that Himmler had actually given some orders regarding surrender earlier in the day.

Attention is drawn to the fact that although Doenitz tried to suggest that Hitler died in action he carefully avoided saying so in as many words.

From facts known in London it is certain that Hitler did not die so nobly, though his end may have been equally dramatic and not exactly from natural causes.

From one in close touch with the Government I was given this summing-up last night: "It is doubtful if whatever happened in Germany last night has lengthened the war by more than a week. The military position is as clear as that. Doenitz has no navy, no organized army and only the skeleton of an air force."

The announcement of Hitler's death at fifty-six, after being Fuehrer since January 30, 1933, was preceded by Wagnerian music and finally by a roll of drums.

During the announcement and Doenitz's speech from Hamburg, the southern German radio network went on broadcasting light music.

It was not until half an hour later that it put

Continued on Back Page

YESTERDAY'S PAPERS

The final stages of World War II in Europe begin with the death of the Führer

“THE MILITARY STRUGGLE CONTINUES” KARL DÖNITZ

When Nazi leader Adolf Hitler was named Führer of Germany in 1934, he claimed his Third Reich would last 1,000 years. By 1945 – after six brutal years of war – his empire was crumbling.

Germany's armies were forced back on all sides and defeat seemed imminent. The Soviets began bombing Berlin on 20 April – Hitler's birthday – while the Allied forces achieved victories in the Ardennes and Spring Offensives, and were taking German prisoners in their thousands.

Hitler had retreated to an underground shelter – the Führerbunker – near the Reich Chancellory in Berlin. He was determined to avoid capture after learning of the violent death of his Italian ally, Benito Mussolini, at the hands of Communist partisans. So, late on 29 April, he married his girlfriend Eva Braun, enjoyed a simple breakfast the next morning, said goodbye to his staff, then they both swallowed cyanide pills. The increasingly paranoid Hitler also shot himself. Their bodies were carried outside and burned.

Despite the disarray of the Nazi leadership, Hitler's death did not signal the immediate end of war. In his will, Hitler named Admiral Karl Dönitz, commander-in-chief of the navy, as the new Führer.

Dönitz made a radio address on 1 May, stating that fighting would continue but, within a week, the unconditional surrender of the Nazis was accepted. On 8 May, Victory in Europe – or VE Day – was celebrated. 📍

Soldiers inspect the ruins of the Führerbunker, including the petrol cans used to burn the bodies



1942 Braun and Hitler at his summer retreat, Berchtesgaden



MAN'S BEST FRIEND

Hitler's German Shepherd, **Blondi**, was another life lost at the Führerbunker. Nervous of the cyanide's effectiveness as a form of suicide, Hitler had his personal physician, **Dr Werner Haase**, test it on his beloved pet.

1945 ALSO IN THE NEWS...

3 MAY German rocket scientist **Wernher von Braun** surrenders to US forces. He works for NASA, where he develops the booster rocket instrumental in the success of the Apollo missions.

21 MAY **Humphrey Bogart** and **Lauren Bacall** marry, a few months after Bogart's divorce from his third wife. Bogart and Bacall are the ultimate celebrity couple, both off-screen and on-screen.

29 MAY **Shuri Castle** is captured by Major General Pedro del Valle and the 5th Marines, during the ferocious Battle of Okinawa. The 14th-century palace was almost destroyed in the conflict.

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

Gunshots echo around the Vatican as Pope John Paul II is seriously wounded

1981 ST PETER'S SQUARE SHOOTING

While Pope John Paul II moves through a huge crowd offering blessings and prayers, one person in the square quietly moves closer in order to get the best aim...

The afternoon of 13 May 1981 is bright and warm as Pope John Paul II begins his regular public audience in St Peter's Square, Vatican City. Thousands of worshippers clamour to get nearer in the hope of receiving a personal blessing or to shake his hand while he is driven past.

The square is filled with noise and excitement, until gunshots are heard only a few feet from his car. Red stains appear on the Pope's white cassock and he slumps back, clutching his chest. The square is silent for a moment before panic erupts as people realise the Pope has been shot.

GUNNED DOWN

Pope John Paul II had already developed a reputation as a progressive leader of the Roman Catholic Church since his election in 1978, speaking passionately about human rights. Fluent in eight languages, he travelled the world showing no fear of speaking to large crowds with minimal protection.

At around 5.15pm on 13 May, a 23-year-old Turkish man named Mehmet Ali Agca exploits the relaxed security when he opens fire with a 9mm Browning pistol. The Pope is shot four times, twice in the stomach, once in his arm and a fourth hitting his little finger. Immediately rushed to

hospital, he is in surgery for well over five hours.

Agca is arrested trying to flee and quickly taken away by police before distraught worshippers turn on him. A note is found in his pocket reading: "I, Agca, have killed the Pope so that the world may know of the thousands of victims of imperialism." Was he acting alone or was it part of a conspiracy by the KGB, the Soviet security force, to undermine anti-Communist movements in the Pope's native Poland? Or did Agca believe he was doing God's will? His motives remain unclear to this day.

In 1979, he had escaped from a Turkish prison, where he had been jailed for killing a newspaper editor. The murder was arranged by a far-right Turkish group, the Grey Wolves.

FORGIVE AND FORGET

Only a few days after the shooting, Pope John Paul II publicly forgives Agca from his hospital bed. His compassion is shown again when he visits his would-be assassin, sentenced to life imprisonment, in 1983.

Agca is pardoned in June 2000 by Italian President Carlo Ciampi, at the Pope's request. Not able to enjoy freedom for long, he is extradited to Turkey to complete his other jail term. He is released from prison in 2010. 🕯

ST PETER'S SQUARE

It is thought that nearly **20,000 people** were present for the Pope's appearance. Many burst into tears or fell to their knees on hearing the shots.

MEHMET ALI AGCA

This photograph shows the gun in Agca's hand. He **wounded two other people** – an American tourist was in serious condition after being shot in the chest and a Jamaican was hit in the arm.

THE THIRD SECRET OF FATIMA

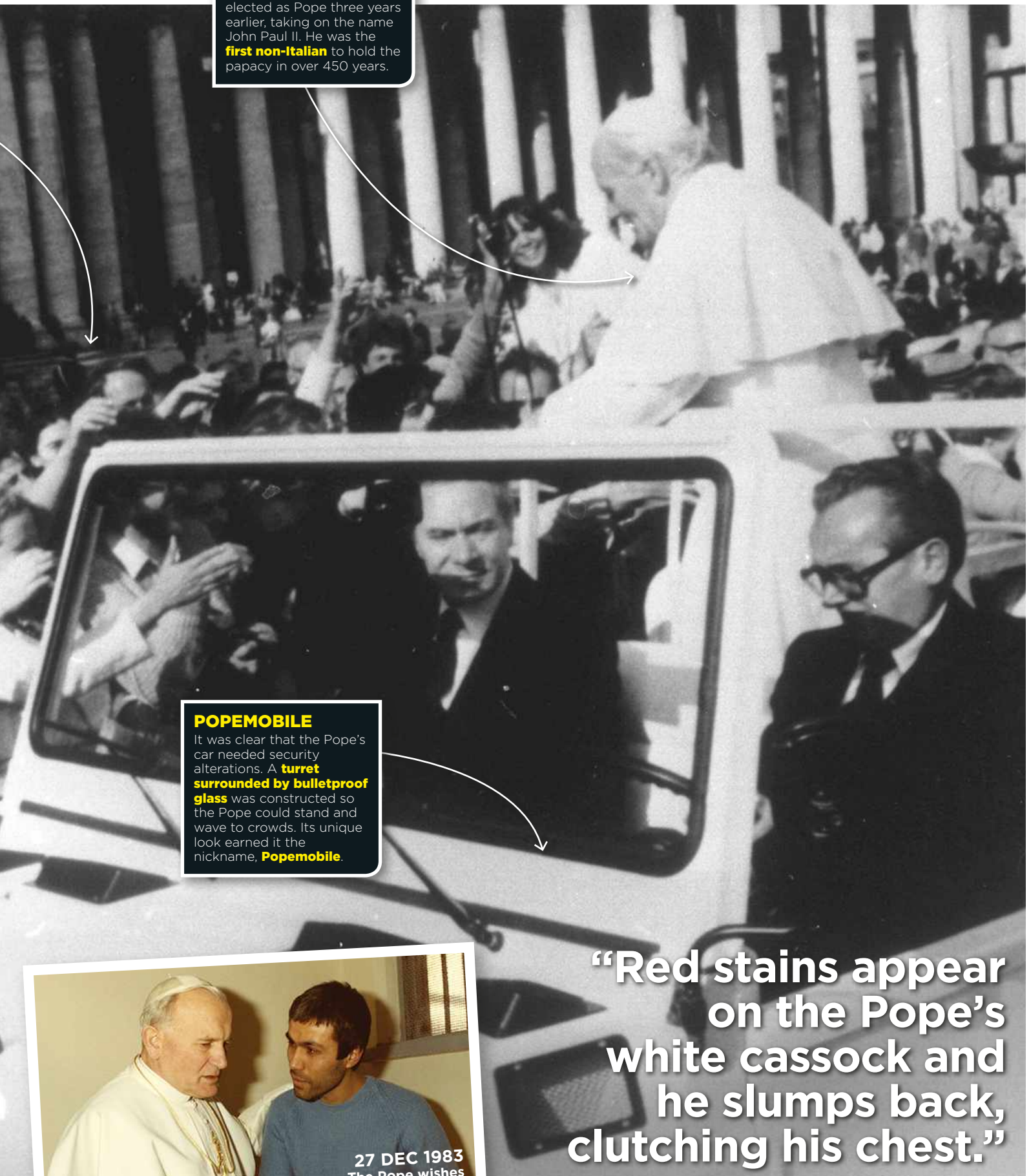
Mystery surrounds Agca's motives but while in prison he claimed that, as well as being the **second incarnation of Jesus Christ**, he acted to fulfil the 'Third Secret of Fatima'. According to legend, the Virgin Mary appeared to three young Portuguese shepherds in 1917 and **predicted the assassination of a pope**. The apparition, like the shooting, took place on 13 May.

TAKING AIM

The Pope is met with cheers when he enters St Peter's Square, but the excitement turns to horror in seconds.

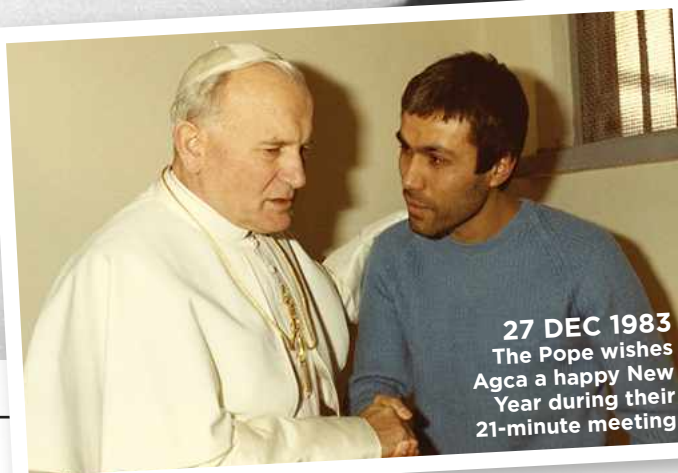
POPE JOHN PAUL II

Cardinal Karol Wojtyla was elected as Pope three years earlier, taking on the name John Paul II. He was the **first non-Italian** to hold the papacy in over 450 years.



POPEMOBILE

It was clear that the Pope's car needed security alterations. A **turret surrounded by bulletproof glass** was constructed so the Pope could stand and wave to crowds. Its unique look earned it the nickname, **Popemobile**.



27 DEC 1983
The Pope wishes Agca a happy New Year during their 21-minute meeting

“Red stains appear on the Pope’s white cassock and he slumps back, clutching his chest.”

THE EXTRAORDINARY TALE OF...

English explorer, writer, cartographer, archaeologist, diplomat, linguist and spy, **Gertrude Bell**

1892 LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT FOR THE 'QUEEN OF THE DESERT'

In May, Gertrude Bell visited Persia for the first time – over the next 34 years, she would play a defining role in the land's future

“Confound the silly chattering windbag of conceited, gushing, flat chested, man-woman, globetrotting, rump-wagging, blethering ass,” remarked the English diplomatic adviser Sir Mark Sykes to his wife. But who was he talking about that could inspire such an ire-fuelled rant?

As a woman in the male-dominated world of the early 20th-century Middle East, Gertrude Bell confronted prejudice from her male counterparts. Highly intelligent and ambitious, she intimidated Persian rulers, British officers (and diplomatic advisers) alike, ruffling many a colonial moustache. But despite the obstacles, the 'Queen of the Desert' helped to build a country and crown a king...

ADVENTURER

After achieving a first-class degree in modern history from the University of Oxford in 1888, Bell went looking for adventure. She travelled the world twice and built a reputation as a formidable mountaineer (in 1901, a Swiss Alps peak was named after her – the Gertrudspitze).

From her 1892 visit to Tehran, however, she was enamoured with the Middle East. While exploring the deserts of Persia and Arabia with local Bedouins, she taught herself archaeology, mapped uncharted areas and learned

Arabic, Persian and Turkish. But despite the dangerous terrains, Bell always seemed at home travelling, and never wanted for comfort – her trunks included fashionable evening gowns, Wedgwood china and rugs, and she was always beautifully attired.

Her path crossed with another English explorer, TE Lawrence – better known as Lawrence of Arabia. As they worked together and shared a love for the cultures

and people of the Middle East, they become close friends.

WORLD WAR I

When war was declared in 1914, Bell and Lawrence caught the attention of British Intelligence and were invited to join the Arab Bureau. There, Bell helped British soldiers get through the desert and gathered information.

After British forces captured Baghdad in 1917, Bell was made

“The great pleasure in this country is that I do love the people so much... I don't think I shall ever be able to detach myself permanently from the fortunes of this country.”

Gertrude Bell, 1917, in a letter to her parents



MEAL FIT FOR A KING
Bell sits at a picnic next to King Faisal I of Iraq (second from the right) in 1922



LAWRENCE OF ARABIA

The British army officer TE Lawrence rose to prominence during World War I for his significant role in the **Arab Revolt** against the **Ottoman Empire**

DESERT SANDS TO SILVER SCREEN

A film chronicling Bell's life and work is in production. **Queen of the Desert** stars Nicole Kidman, Damian Lewis and Robert Pattinson and will be released in 2015.

THE BIG THREE
Winston Churchill, Gertrude Bell and TE Lawrence pose in the shadow of the Sphinx for the Cairo Conference, 1921



THE WOMAN WHO MADE IRAQ
A gifted cartographer, Bell drew the borders of the new country

Oriental Secretary, making her the first woman enlisted as a military intelligence officer, and was awarded a CBE for her work maintaining relations with the Arab population.

KINGMAKER

By the end of the war, British policy in the Middle East was in a mess. Bell, now an outspoken, powerful official and key policy maker, was mediating between the three Ottoman regions of Mosul, Basra and Baghdad, while protecting British interests. It was clear that a long-term solution was required. Winston Churchill, Colonial Secretary at the time, organised a conference in order to create a new independent state in Mesopotamia under British mandate. Bell was chosen as the only female delegate for the Cairo Conference of 1921.

Not only did Bell draw the borders of this new country, named Iraq, but she put forward the candidate for its king – Prince Faisal. Bell wrote to her father shortly afterwards: “You may rely upon one thing – I’ll never engage in creating kings again; it’s too great a strain.”

FINAL YEARS

Bell was always passionate in her work, but her achievements disguised a crushing loneliness and depression. She had been in love once but it ended in tragedy.

Bell had met the unhappily married army officer Major Charles Doughty-Wylie in 1907 and the pair began sending love letters in 1913. Despite the passion of their letters, it is thought their affair was never consummated. Both felt bound by propriety, and Doughty-Wylie couldn’t face the shame of a divorce. He died in April 1915, during an attack at Gallipoli. Bell was devastated.

Stepping back from politics, Bell spent her last years establishing the Baghdad Archaeological Museum, which remains a monument to her work today.

On 12 July 1926, aged 57, Bell died in Baghdad from an overdose of sleeping pills. It is unclear whether it was deliberate. She is buried in the country she helped create where people still remember her fondly. She must have been used to opinions like those voiced by Sykes, but Bell never faltered in her dedication to the Middle East. ☉

JOIN THE DEBATE

Which other historical figures led extraordinary lives?



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HISTORY
REVEALED

THE VIKINGS

The Viking Age stretched from the ninth to the 11th centuries. During this era, the Vikings cast their raiding-and-trading nets wide across great swathes of Europe, Asia, Africa and **even America** – many centuries before Columbus sailed the oceans.

The Viking homelands were in **Sweden, Norway and Denmark**, but they were a diverse population, with different rulers. Their native landscapes were hugely varied too,

from the mountainous, hard-to-cultivate environments of the north, to the fertile plains of the south. One similarity was the myriad of **waterways**, which the ancient Scandinavians came to master.

The success of the Vikings depended not only on their **longships**, but also on a desire to explore. And wherever they went – whatever their intent – they left their mark culturally, economically and, sometimes, barbarically. 📍



NOW READ ON...

28

THE ANCIENT SCANDINAVIANS

How the Vikings lived

36

TIMELINE

Nordic milestones at a glance

38

VIOLENT VIKINGS

Do these explorers deserve their savage reputation?

45

GET HOOKED!

Experience more Viking history





FIRE & GLORY

Torches ablaze, Viking re-enactors escort a longship to its fiery end. Soon the boat will be ignited as part of an ancient ritual to send it to Valhalla - the realm of the afterlife

LADY OF THE HOUSE

This Viking re-enactor may only be tending to dinner, but she's still dressed in colourful jewels

1

HOW THEY LIVED

Proud, protective and fond of the finer things in life, the ancient Scandinavians had home lives that were full of culture

Viking society was mainly governed by 'jarls', the most important of which could become kings. A largely military society, strength at arms was prized, but learned men and women also wielded power. Indeed, ladies played an important part in society. They were guardians of the keys to both property and wealth, particularly when their menfolk were abroad.

The majority of the Viking year revolved around farming, fishing and generally tending to the land. Their diet included a good deal of fish, given the fact that most settlements were near to the coast. Evidence of Viking latrines shows they feasted on elk, bear, puffin, salmon and trout.

TABLE MANNERS
Food trays were practical items, yet ornately finished

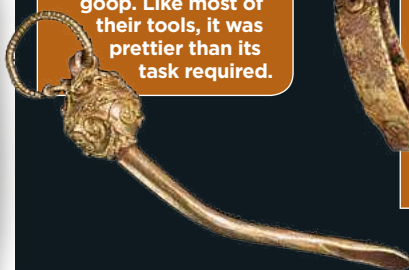


THE FAIREST OF THEM ALL LOOKING GOOD

Far from unkempt barbarians, Viking men and women were actually quite vain. Many finds like tweezers, combs and razors have been discovered, and it seems they went to great pains over their appearance.

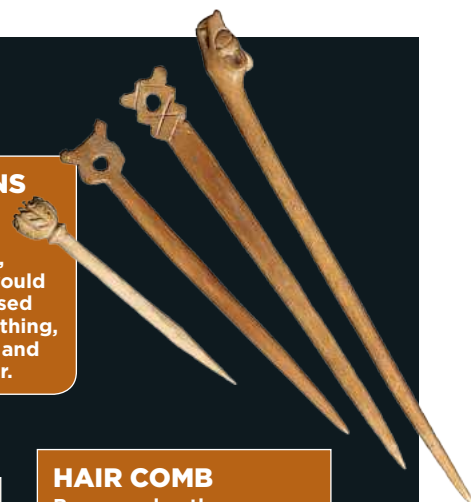
EAR SPOON

Thor forbid a Viking would be caught with excess earwax - they had a special device for scooping out the goop. Like most of their tools, it was prettier than its task required.



BONE PINS

Delicately carved from animal bone, these pins would have been used to fasten clothing, or to secure and decorate hair.



TWEEZERS

We may take the humble tweezers for granted today, but Vikings placed real value on their pluckers. This copper-alloy pair is adorned with motifs and a glass bead.



HAIR COMB

Bones and antlers were carved to create hair combs, which were prized possessions. Some protective cases made especially for combs have also been uncovered.



FEMALE OF THE SPECIES VIKING WOMEN

Women were held in high esteem, with two buried within the famous Oseberg ship (see page 35 for more on this boat). One was around 80 years old when she died. This is highly unusual, as 50 per cent of Viking women died by 35, the most common cause of death being complications during pregnancy and birth. Men fared even worse, with the majority dying between 21 and 30, probably due to being involved in warfare. Vikings did not live long, with 33 per cent dead before reaching adulthood, and people aged over 40 were considered old.

14

The number of Viking ships that arrived to colonise Greenland in 986

HOME SWEET HOME WHERE THEY LIVED

Viking houses were generally made of wood, stone or turf, depending on what materials were available, and covered with a thatched or turfed roof. Most were simple – a single large rectangular room in which a group of kinsmen would eat and sleep around a central hearth. Towns or villages would include workshops, where

craftsmen could work a number of trades, including metalworking, carpentry and leather working.

Wealthy Vikings built large halls, like the magnificent 'Heorot' recorded in the epic poem *Beowulf*, which was the setting for lavish feasts, gifts of gold, and display of skills at arms.



GRASS ROOFS
Turf provides excellent insulation, keeping the interior nice and warm

READING THE RUNES LANGUAGE

The Vikings were not the ignorant and illiterate barbarians that Christian writers of the time believed them to be. While they didn't write long texts until later in the Viking Age, they had developed a complex script – runes – that was loaded with symbolism. Each letter in the runic alphabet was also connected with a word; the 'f'

rune was called 'fé', which meant 'wealth' or 'cattle', for example. They could carry spiritual meaning too, and texts record how certain runes were connected with specific gods or goddesses. Runestones were used to record lengthy dedications and personal names, while smaller inscriptions survive on items like combs and weapons.

STONE STORY

Runic text is interwoven with stylised snakes on this runestone, found near a Viking stronghold in Sweden



33

The percentage of a longboat's crew that attacked during battle. The rest defended and rowed





WHAT THEY BELIEVED

The Vikings' religion may have appeared crude to the Christians a thousand years ago, but in fact it was a complex system of beliefs

Viking religion was structured, hierarchical and based on a number of established narratives. However, it was not a religion of the book – the mythology was transmitted orally. While Christians would refer to it as 'paganism', the more romantic Icelandic term 'Forn Siðr' or 'old custom' can be used to describe the system of beliefs and practices. The key text to understanding Norse religion was Snorri Sturluson's *Prose Edda*. While it contains many fascinating insights into the gods and their followers, it was only written in the 13th century, when Scandinavia was Christian.

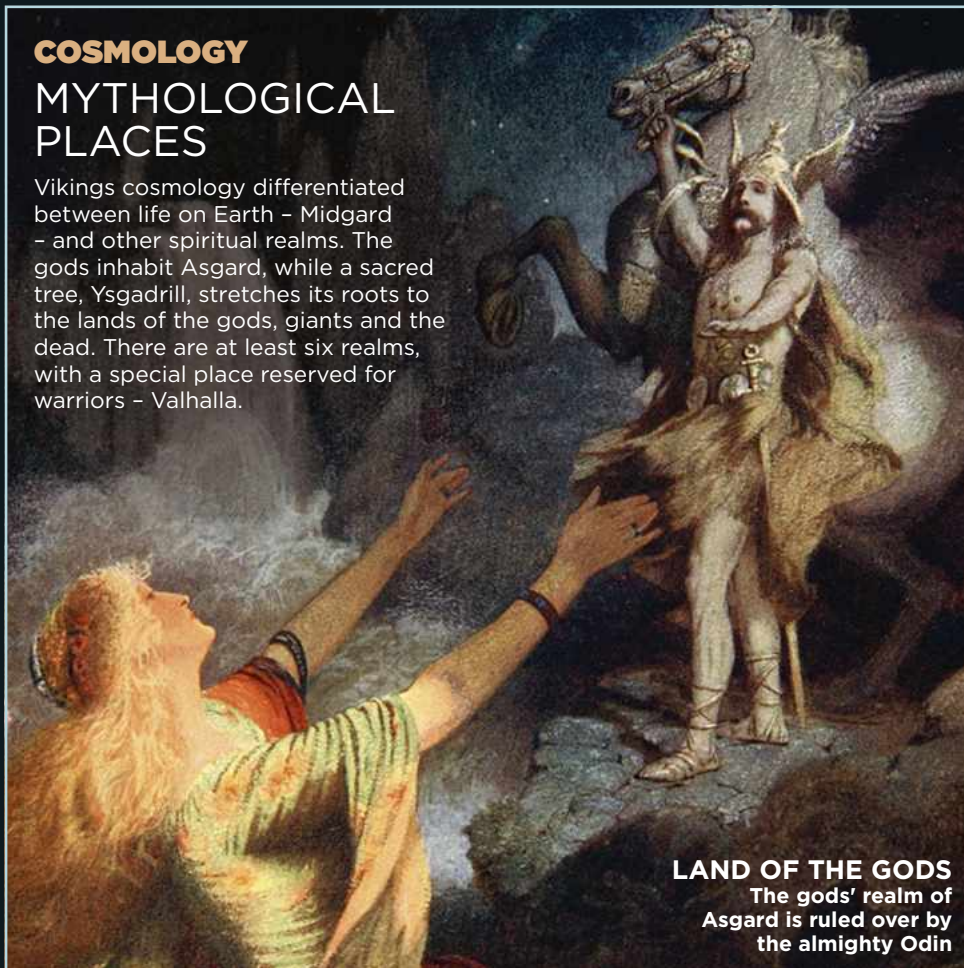
The Vikings didn't practice their religion in temples or churches, but rather like the ancient Celts, held places like groves and rivers sacred. It seems priests were involved in religious ceremonies, and these were drawn from the heads of families. Priestly office was also one of the honours bestowed on kings.

The priest would perform sacrifices of objects, animals or people. Human sacrifices would take place for important religious festivals, or at a funeral, where a servant may be sacrificed to accompany the dead to the afterlife.

COSMOLOGY

MYTHOLOGICAL PLACES

Vikings cosmology differentiated between life on Earth – Midgard – and other spiritual realms. The gods inhabit Asgard, while a sacred tree, Ysgadrill, stretches its roots to the lands of the gods, giants and the dead. There are at least six realms, with a special place reserved for warriors – Valhalla.



LAND OF THE GODS
The gods' realm of Asgard is ruled over by the almighty Odin

THE BIG FOUR

THE KEY GODS OF NORSE MYTHOLOGY

The Vikings believed in many mythical beings – not just all-powerful gods and goddesses, but giants, dwarves and elves, too. However, there were four gods that every good Viking wanted to keep happy...



Thor
God of thunder, storms & fertility

Thor was the most popular god. He was the hammer-wielding god of storms, lightning and thunder, and plays an important role in the mythology. He is associated with oak trees and lightening bolts. Thursday is named after him – 'Thors-day'.



Odin
Father of gods

Father to Thor, Odin rules the gods' realm of Asgard. He is linked with war and wisdom and has a magical horse and two ravens. Also known as Woden, Wednesday is named after him – 'Woden's-day'.



Freyr
God of fertility & fair-weather

Primarily a fertility god, Freyr was also linked with wealth, prosperity, rain and sunshine. Son of the sea god, Njörd, Freyr bestows peace and pleasure on humankind, and is brother of the goddess Freyja (right). His name may have given us 'Friday' – 'Freyrs-day'.



Freyja
Goddess of sex, beauty, gold & death

Freyja is one of the few female deities in the pantheon. She rides a chariot pulled by two cats, and is accompanied by a sacred boar.

FIGUREHEAD

As with many Viking items, the longships were decorated. Many warships had intimidating figureheads designed to **terrify their enemies**.

SAIL

The square sail used by the Vikings is both the most basic and the **oldest type of rigging** that we know of. The sail was woven from wool.

KEEL

Made from planks of oak, the main structure of the boat was plied with **animal wool and pine-tree tar** to waterproof the vessel.

MAST

Some boats had collapsible masts, which were taken down during **sea battles**. The boats were also tied together, to create floating islands while they fought.

FORESTAY

A forestay connected the sail to the bow. It's not known what the ropes were made of, **possibly animal skin** or wood fibres, but either way, ropes were **highly valued** items and crucial for trade.

STEERING OAR

While up to 100 men row, **just one man** is in control of the longship's direction. He sits at the back of the boat and works the large steering oar.

3

WATER WORLD

Just as at home on seas and rivers as on land, the Vikings dominated the waters

The Viking world revolved around waterways. As casually as we use cars and roads for travel today, so too would Vikings use their boats to sail along coasts, up rivers, and across seas. Fjords surround the Scandinavian homelands, and rivers offered more easily navigable routes than land. To them, land was more of a barrier, and moving away from water brought with it the risk of being cut off or isolated from the busy waterways.

It is difficult to believe that Vikings were able to settle in such distant countries as America and Russia around the time of the first millennium. On a flat map, Europe, and Scandinavia in

200,000

The number of Scandinavians who emigrated to other lands between AD 800-1150

particular, look far away from these locations. However, when we consider the fact that America, Greenland, Iceland, the British Isles, Scandinavia and Russia are all connected by stretches of water, then the idea that the Vikings explored along these watery motorways seems less unfathomable.



TO THE SHIPS

VIKING LONGBOATS

The international success of the Vikings depended on the remarkable longships they used for raiding, trading and travelling. They were developed from the Stone Age onwards to become the most sophisticated boats of the whole medieval period.

Viking ships were between 15 and 35 metres in length, clinker built (with overlapping planks of wood to make up the hull), and could accommodate up to 100 oarsmen. They were steered by a single oar, and could average around 10 knots.

What a longship carried depended very much on the nature of the voyage. If the ship was embarking on trade it would be laden with goods, including slaves, wool and metal, which could be exchanged for desirable artefacts elsewhere. If the ship was sailing to war, then weapons and warriors would take up the majority of the cargo. Some warships were as long as 30 metres, and could be powered by sail or oars. However, if they were on an exploring mission, and bent on settling where they landed, then the ship would have to carry enough food to sustain the crew in both directions, livestock and, possibly, women and children.



THE BIG STORY THE VIKINGS



GREENLAND

After discovering Greenland c980 AD, the **Vikings created settlements** there.

ICELAND

By AD 870, the Vikings had set up **colonies in Iceland**.

NORTH AMERICA

In AD 1000, the Vikings reached North America, and tried to **set up a small colony**. Unable to thrive, however, they left after a few years.

UK AND IRELAND

The Vikings reached England in AD 793, sacking **Lindisfarne monastery**, and invading Ireland two years later.

4

GREAT EXPLORERS

Ready to risk everything to find new lands, the Vikings' strategy definitely paid off

The Vikings were some of the greatest travellers the world had ever seen. Prehistoric carvings and stone ships testify to the importance of boats within prehistoric Scandinavian society and religion. By the 9th century, they had developed advanced ships that could traverse the hostile Northern Atlantic Ocean. They travelled further than any single race before the Victorians, and took huge risks whenever they set out on a voyage.

They used their longships to manoeuvre along the coasts of France, Spain and Northern Africa, to the Mediterranean. From there, they could trade with Italy and the Byzantine Empire. Indeed, many Byzantine coins have been found in Viking hoards. Looking to the northeast they also navigated the Volga – the longest river in Europe – and wound their way down to the Middle East. Not only did they discover Iceland and Greenland, they also made it to North America, settling in Canada.

TRADING STYLES

EXOTIC OBJECTS

The influence of Viking fashion and tastes was felt wherever they travelled, particularly in areas where they stayed and settled. Their furs, amber, weapons and jewellery became desirable objects. The Vikings, in turn, also developed a taste for some of the more exotic styles they encountered. They took home brightly coloured beads, marble and shells originating thousands of miles from their native lands.



AMBER BEADS

Fossilised wood resin was the look of the day. Rings and necklaces were top choice.

SILK BONNET

In York, Vikings adorned their heads with silk from the Byzantium Empire.



SHELL

Found in York, this prized cowrie shell had been brought thousands of miles from its natural home of the Red Sea.



FINE JEWEL

With gold wire and filigree, this intricate brooch was the work of a highly skilled craftsman.



SCANDINAVIA

From their homelands, Norse explorers went out on missions throughout the **Viking Age**. They became known as 'Vikings' – a name possibly taken from a **place called Viken**, in the Norway, or from the **Old Norse word for pirate**, 'vikingr'.

MAPPED OUT

Possibly the first drawn example of the new world, this map shows the extent of Norse exploration

TO BOLDLY GO...

LEIF ERIKSON

The Vikings tend to be spoken of as a single group, but there were individuals who have earned a place in history as great explorers. The most famous is probably **Leif Erikson**, who set sail from Iceland around the year AD 1001, and established a settlement on the very edge of Newfoundland. He was the first European to set foot on America. His father, **Erik the Red**, was also a famous explorer, having established a Viking settlement in Greenland.

Ingvar the Far-travelled earned his name from having reached the edges of the known world, pillaging Persia and eventually settling somewhere near the Caspian Sea. His incredible efforts are recorded on a series of runestones around southern Sweden.

SOUTHERN EUROPE

The Vikings recognised the riches of the **Mediterranean**, and raided and traded there for centuries.

MONEY WORTH AN ARM...

When trading with so many different people and cultures, the Vikings had to develop a standard currency that all would accept. This was hack-silver. They developed pure silver, which could be cut down, weighed and exchanged instead of coins. It was often

formed into armbands – many have been found in hoards; some complete and some in pieces. The more silver armbands a Viking man or woman wore, the more powerful and influential they would appear to be.

WEIGH IN

Traders carried mini scales for weighing up hack silver

HUMAN TRAFFIC SLAVERY

It wasn't just objects that the Vikings traded. Humans changed hands too. Slavery was big business – Christian monks and priests could be seized and sold on for labour, and Irish slaves in particular changed hands across the known world.



BLAZING GLORY

At the annual Up Helly Aa festival in the Shetlands, Viking fans recreate an impressive funeral pyre

5

VIKING BURIALS

Ritualistic and crucially important to Viking culture, funerals were a very big deal

The Vikings believed in a complex afterlife, so the dead were buried with all they might need in the underworld. Burial with personal 'grave goods', as they are known, was the norm, and even poorer people were interred with their knife, brooches or keys. People who specialised in a specific trade, such as blacksmiths, would be buried with their tools, while women might be buried with spindles, or mystical objects like wands and crystal balls.

Higher status burials could be extremely rich, with all the trappings of courtly and warrior life included around the body. It was important to provide the right kind of burial and grave goods, for if not the deceased may be destined to remain a 'draugr' – 'one who walks after death'. Sometimes horses, or even slaves would be sacrificed at the same time as their masters, since they formed part of their possessions and could assist them in the afterlife.

The burial rituals of the Vikings are rarely recorded in detail, but one Arab Muslim writer, Ahmad Ibn Fadlan, describes a 10th-century burial scene, which included rape, torture and human sacrifice.



GRAVE TAPESTRY

A STITCH IN TIME

Burial ships were often lined with fine tapestries, such as this one, found inside the Oseberg ship (see right)

BURIAL OPTIONS

WAYS TO GO

There was a great deal of variety in the methods of burial across the Viking world...

1. CREMATION

The use of fire was common in rituals, and it was thought that a cremation helped to transport the spirit of the deceased to the afterlife. A funeral pyre, complete with the dead person's possessions, would be raised, with the body on top. This would then be burnt, and the heat could reach temperatures of up to 1,400°C.

INTO THE FIRE

Laden with the deceased's possessions, Viking mourners prepare to ignite a burial warship.



BURIAL CART

The only example of a Viking cart was found inside the Oseberg boat.



3. SHIP BURIAL

The most common form of burial for kings and high status individuals, ship burials have been discovered across Scandinavia, Britain and Russia. The dead are laid in a ship with their possessions and sent out to sea, at which point the boat could be set alight. Alternatively, ships could be buried beneath mounds, along with bodies and grave goods.

These were expensive burials, but would be an investment, as the mound would act as a marker of dynastic territory. Both men and women could be buried in ships. The most famous, the Oseberg ship, contained the bodies of an elderly lady and her female slave, alongside a wealth of precious objects, including four sleighs, a cart, wooden chests and bed posts.

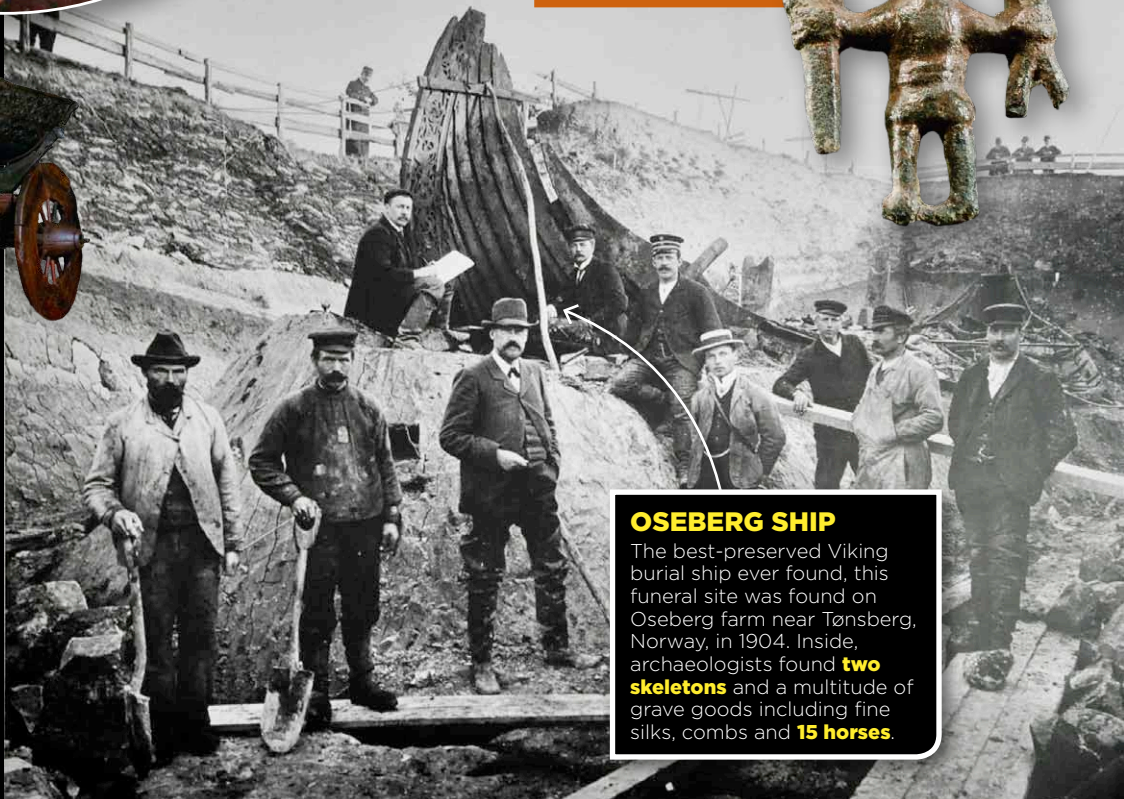


2. BURIAL BENEATH A MOUND

A burial chamber, complete with grave goods, and often tapestries, cooking utensils and feasting equipment, would be completely covered by a mound of earth or stones. The mounds or cairns (in the case of burial beneath stones) could be many metres high. Family members would be buried in the same place, as at the Borre mound cemetery in Norway, where nine mounds and 27 cairns cover an area of 45 acres.

SACRED STYLE

Jewellery, such as this bronze pendant from a grave, was deemed important for the afterlife.



OSEBERG SHIP

The best-preserved Viking burial ship ever found, this funeral site was found on Oseberg farm near Tønsberg, Norway, in 1904. Inside, archaeologists found **two skeletons** and a multitude of grave goods including fine silks, combs and **15 horses**.

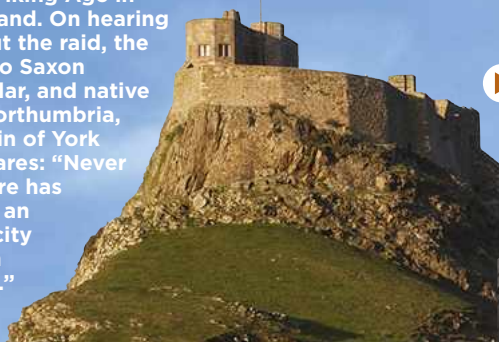


TIMELINE Landmarks of

Follow the Scandinavian invaders' exploits, from their earliest raids to their

AD 793

Norsemen attack the monastery of Lindisfarne in Northumbria on 8 June, marking the start of the Viking Age in England. On hearing about the raid, the Anglo Saxon scholar, and native of Northumbria, Alcuin of York declares: "Never before has such an atrocity been seen."



AD 794-795

Raids become a frequent fear for the people of England, Scotland and Ireland. Small groups carried out the early attacks, but fleets of ships can by now often be seen off the coasts.



AD 841

The first Viking longphort – or fortified settlement – of Duib Linn is established in Ireland as a trading base. In AD 917, the permanent settlement of Dyflin is founded, the town we now know as Dublin.

This 'longstone' was a marker for Viking ships



AD 866

Ivar the Boneless leads an army to capture York. The Northumbrians are fighting among themselves, so he conquers the city easily, slaying many people. He also repels an attack by the Northumbrians to reclaim the city. York is renamed Jorvik and becomes the Viking capital in England.

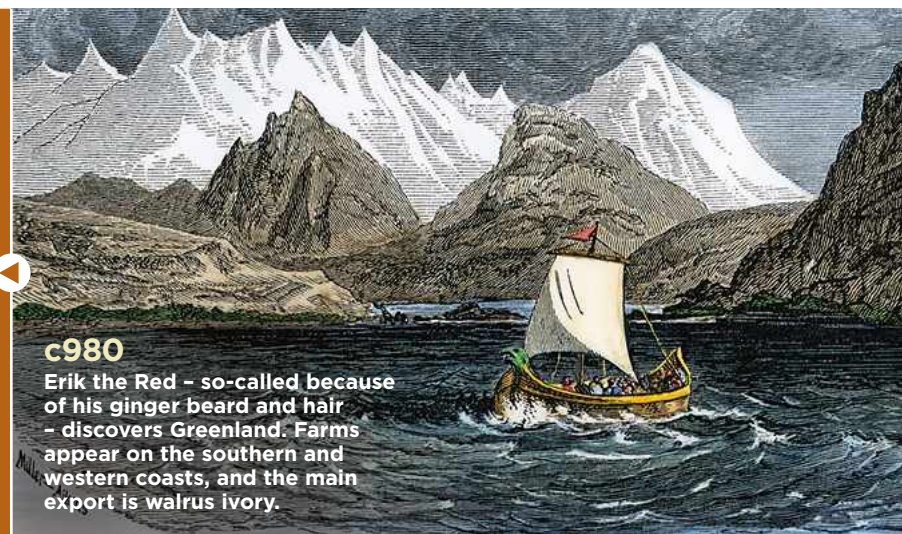


c1000

Leif Eriksson, son of Erik the Red, reaches North America, making landfall at modern-day Newfoundland. The settlement of L'Anse aux Meadows is founded but only lasts a few years.

AD 995

Norway forcibly converts to Christianity under the rule of Olaf Trygvason. He tortures and kills anyone who refuses, including the Norse priest Raud the Strong. A snake was forced down his throat with a red-hot iron and ate its way out of his stomach.



c980

Erik the Red – so-called because of his ginger beard and hair – discovers Greenland. Farms appear on the southern and western coasts, and the main export is walrus ivory.

1013

Sweyn Forkbeard becomes the first Danish King of all England on Christmas Day, after 20 years of slaughter. Saxon King Æthelred the Unready had ordered the massacre of Danes in England in 1002, so when Sweyn takes the throne, he seeks brutal revenge. Æthelred flees abroad.

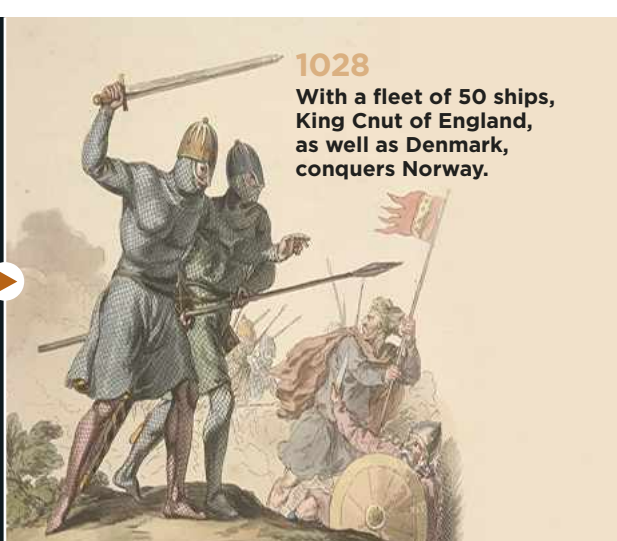
1014

Sweyn's reign doesn't last long – he dies five weeks after being declared King, allowing Æthelred the Unready to return to the throne. Sweyn's son, Cnut, becomes leader of the Danes and two years later, he reclaims the title of King of England. He rules for 19 years.



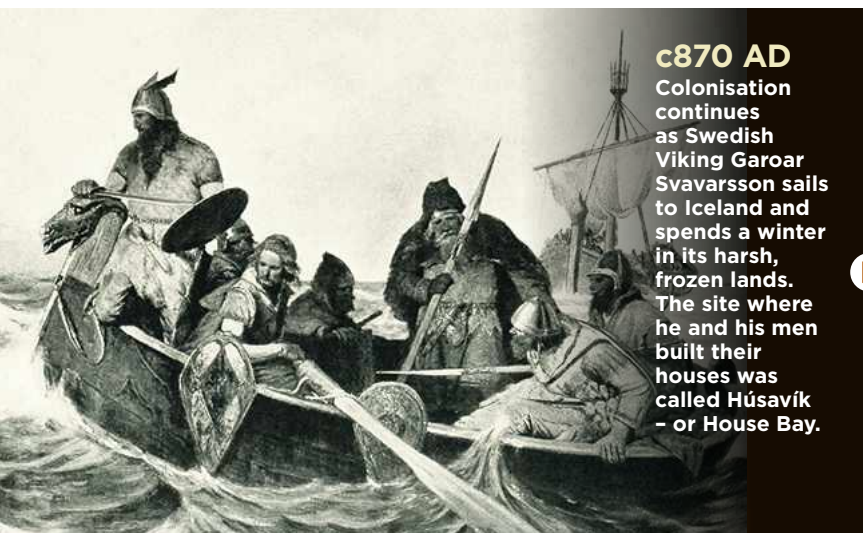
1028

With a fleet of 50 ships, King Cnut of England, as well as Denmark, conquers Norway.



the Viking Age

aggressive expansion through the world



c870 AD

Colonisation continues as Swedish Viking Garoar Svavarsson sails to Iceland and spends a winter in its harsh, frozen lands. The site where he and his men built their houses was called Húsavík – or House Bay.

AD 871

On 8 January, the armies of King Æthelred of Wessex aim to halt the advance of the invading Danes – who already control the north and east of England – at the Battle of Ashdown. His army is victorious, but suffers huge losses.



WRITE OFF

Certain Viking words may have caught on in English, but their runic writing system did not

LANGUAGE WORD FOR WORD

The Vikings had a profound effect on some of the places they travelled to. This is very clear in England, where Old Norse loan words made their way into the vernacular. There are many place names that survive from Viking times, including those ending in 'by', like Whitby and Grimsby. But there are a lot of very basic words in the English language that have Viking origins.

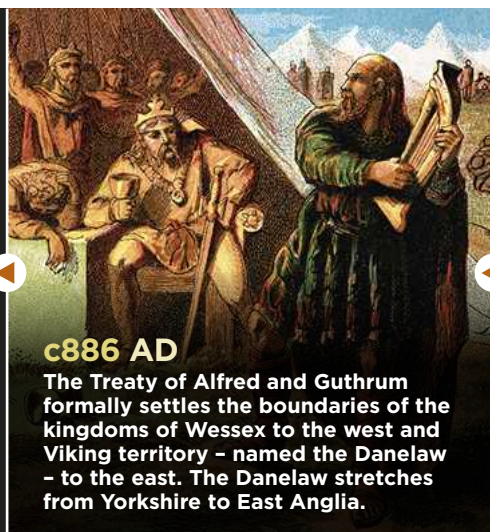


AD 954

The last Viking king of York, the brutal Eric Bloodaxe, is forced out of the city and killed.



Silver pennies were used in Eric Bloodaxe's rule



AD 878

Alfred, the next King of Wessex, fights Viking King Guthrum's Great Heathen Army at the Battle of Edington. Alfred's forces defeat the Danes, and Guthrum vows to withdraw from Alfred's territories and to be baptised into Christianity.

c886 AD

The Treaty of Alfred and Guthrum formally settles the boundaries of the kingdoms of Wessex to the west and Viking territory – named the Danelaw – to the east. The Danelaw stretches from Yorkshire to East Anglia.

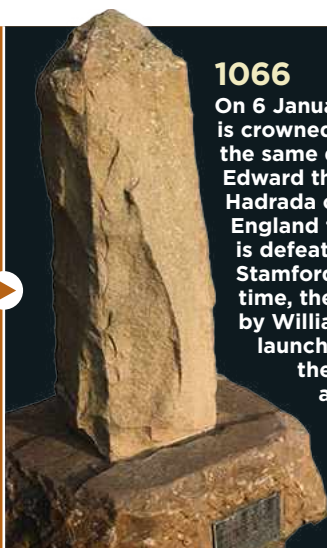
1042

Harthacnut, who succeeded his father Cnut as King of England, dies. The pious Edward the Confessor – son of Æthelred the Unready – is invited to return from exile in Normandy and is crowned King, restoring the house of Wessex.



1066

On 6 January, Harold Godwinson is crowned King of England on the same day as the funeral of Edward the Confessor. Harald Hadrada of Norway invades England to steal the throne but is defeated at the Battle of Stamford Bridge. At the same time, the Norman invasion led by William the Conqueror is launched. Harold is killed at the Battle of Hastings, and England is changed forever.



The monument of the Battle of Stamford Bridge

ANGER

From *angr* 'trouble, affliction'; root *ang* 'strait, straitened, troubled'; related to *anga*, plural *öngur* 'straits, anguish'

fok, 'snow flurry'; through Danish *fog*, 'spray, shower, snowdrift'

ODD

From *oddi* 'third number', 'the casting vote'

BALL

From *bollr* 'round object'

SCARF

From *skarfr* 'fastening a joint'

DIRT

From *drit* 'faeces'

WINDOW

From *vindauga* 'wind eye' – although *gluggi* was more commonly used in Old Norse

FOG

From Old Norse



VIOLENT VIKINGS

Did the 'wolves of war' deserve their reputation?

The enduring image of Vikings is of bloodthirsty, rampaging maniacs – yet, as **Janina Ramirez** reveals, that's far from the whole truth

Vikings were instantly recognisable – or so we tend to think. Horned helmet, wild hair, dishevelled appearance, fierce expression, primitive weapons. Down the centuries, these stereotypical characteristics have appeared in countless films, books, comics and even operas. And this appearance reinforces the common conception of Vikings as bloodthirsty warriors who raided, raped and pillaged wherever their terrifying longboats landed. This impression, though, is rather simplistic.

True, some Vikings clearly deserved their reputation as 'wolves of war'. But others enjoyed peaceful lives farming, trading and integrating with populations across the four continents on which they settled.

There is no doubt that many raids by Vikings were bloody and savage. They were renowned and feared for their skills as warriors, and there's certainly plenty of evidence to support their reputation for violence. For example, 54 skeletons were discovered in a mass grave at Ridgeway Hill in Dorset in 2009 – the remains of an elite killing unit. These were Jomsvikings: warriors

who would show no fear, who would never flee a battlefield unless completely overwhelmed. This particular band's killing spree was brought to an end by local Anglo-Saxons who rounded them up and decapitated them, burying their skulls alongside their bodies in a perpetual reminder of their brutality.

Equally, many skeletons have been unearthed that bear the marks of Viking violence – some even with the instruments of their death still wedged in their bones. A skeleton >

THE VIKINGS
ARE COMING!
Shetlanders in
Lerwick re-enact
Viking raids during
the annual Up Helly
Aa festival in January

GETTY XI





**“THE PAGANS
HAVE POURED
OUT THE
BLOOD OF
THE SAINTS
ROUND
ABOUT THE
ALTAR”**



KING ROLLO

The Norse nobleman baptised as Robert founded the Viking principality that became known as **Normandy**.



SHIP SHAPE
Viking longboats – this one was discovered at Oseberg farm in Norway – were shallow and fast



VIKINGS WERE FISHERMEN OR FARMERS, CULTIVATING FOOD TO LAST THEM THROUGH THE CHANGING SEASONS

in Northampton Museum still has a Viking spearhead jammed in its neck. What's more, numerous sources from across the medieval world describe highly aggressive acts. In AD 793 Alcuin, a cleric and scholar from York, sent a letter to Bishop Higbald, describing the actions of the first Viking raid on the Northumbrian monastery of Lindisfarne.

"The pagans have contaminated the sanctuaries of God, and have poured out the blood of the saints round about the altar," he wrote. "They have laid waste the house of our hope, and have trampled upon the bodies of the saints in the temple of God like dung in the street."

WERE ALL VIKINGS VIOLENT?

Killing innocent monks and destroying monasteries – such acts reinforce the image of Vikings as a violent bunch. But this isn't the whole picture. To find out more, we have to start by asking who the Vikings really were.

In fact, even the word Viking is ambiguous. In early medieval England it was connected with piracy (*wicing* in Old English), while in Scandinavia it was associated with traders from the *Vik* region in what's now south-eastern Norway (called *vikingr* in Old Norse). The connection of the word with a particular group of violent seafarers from the north wasn't established till much later. And though the people described as Vikings had certain things in common – the buildings they lived in, their religious views, their tastes and fashions – they were individual tribes and did not see themselves as a unified race.

The term Viking is also troublesome because it refers not just to a people, but also to an action – the act of going 'a-viking'. For most of the year, Vikings were fishermen or farmers, cultivating food to last them through the changing seasons in the often hostile environments



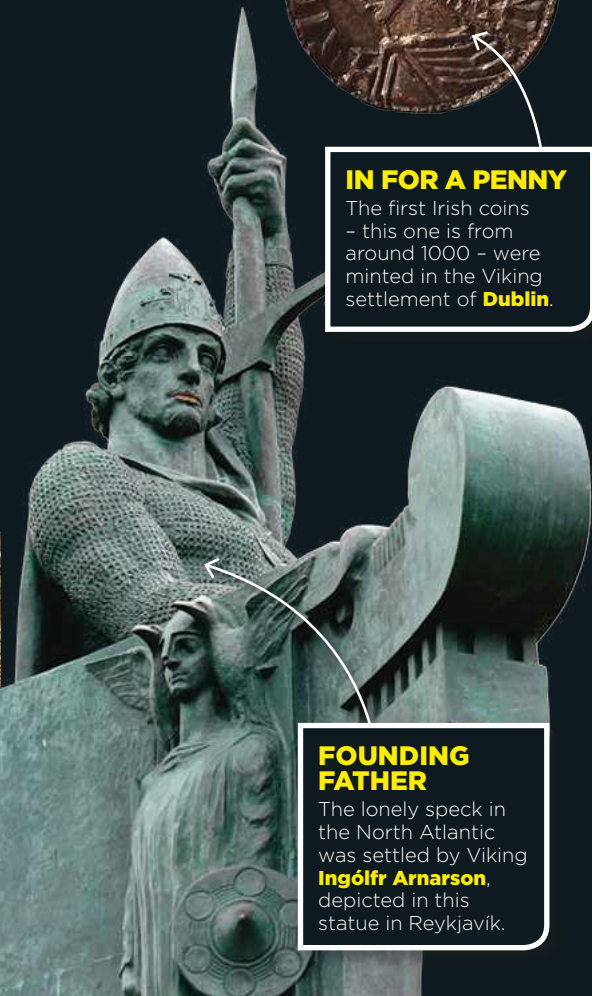
350

The number of Viking ships that reportedly raided England in AD 850



IN FOR A PENNY

The first Irish coins – this one is from around 1000 – were minted in the Viking settlement of **Dublin**.



FOUNDING FATHER

The lonely speck in the North Atlantic was settled by Viking **Ingólfr Arnarson**, depicted in this statue in Reykjavík.

VIKING SETTLEMENTS

WHEN CONQUERORS BECAME COLONISERS

Viking settlements in Ireland, Iceland and England show that the Norsemen didn't just bring bloodshed

One of the earliest and most extensive Viking settlements was Dublin, established as a trading base in AD 841. Dublin grew into an industrially strong city, with a thriving port, and a mint where the first Irish coins were made. It wasn't just Dublin that changed and developed under the Vikings. In York, the Anglo-Saxon city was relocated further towards the mouth of the river and settled by Vikings as a new and vibrant town – Jorvik.

Iceland owes its settlement almost entirely to Vikings, under Ingólfr Arnarson in AD 874. It was the combination of Viking men and Irish women (probably female slaves) that gave the first Icelandic

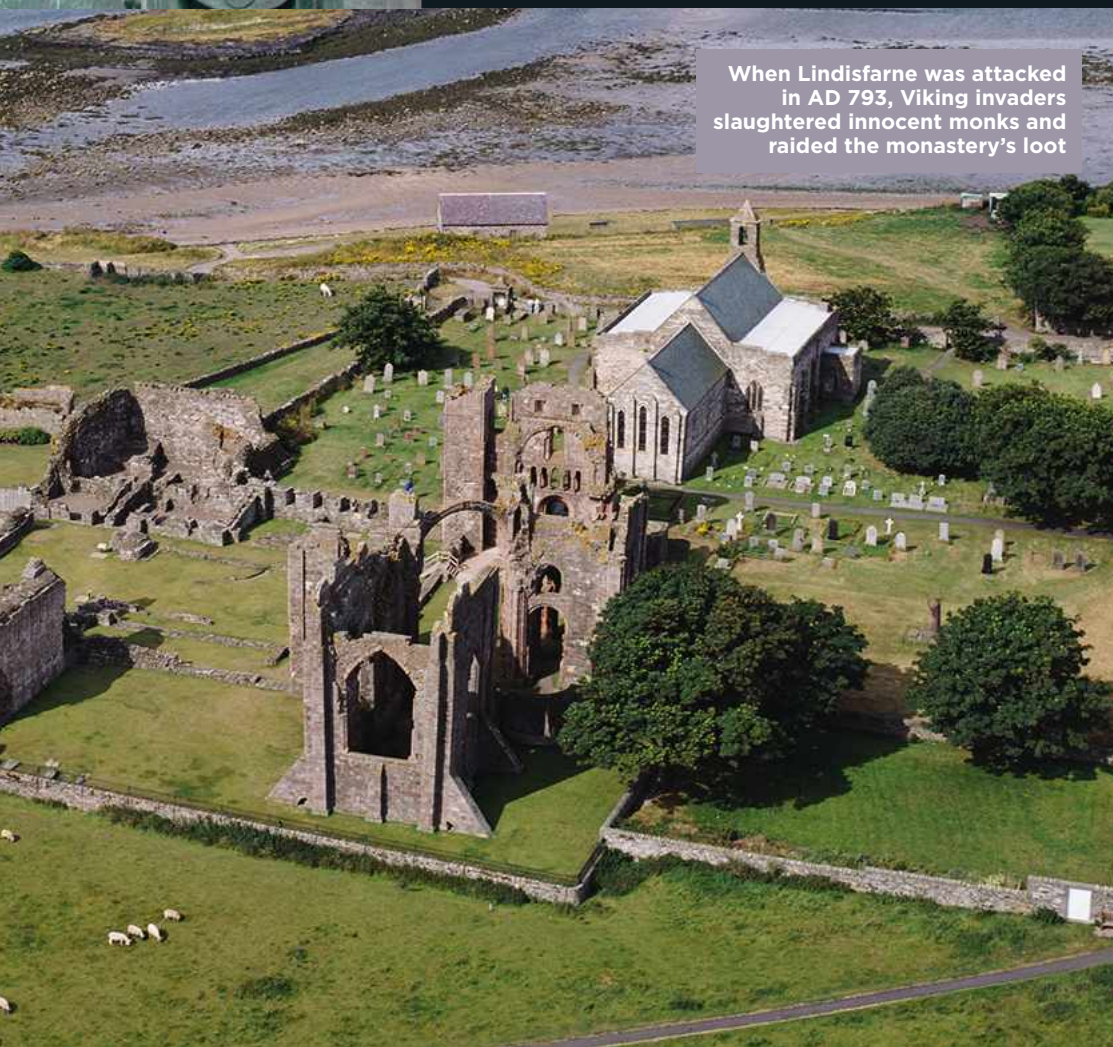
settlers their uniqueness. From this distant northern island many of the great Sagas originated, and these settlers on an uninhabited and inhospitable isle on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge were responsible for an incredibly important literary outpouring.

Normandy is another example of how Viking settlement could grow

from violence into peaceful settlement. The Normans got their name from being 'north-men', yet they were given land in the north of France by King Charles III in an attempt to keep further Viking attacks at bay. Charles even gave his daughter to Rollo in marriage, and the Viking settlers soon embraced French language and culture to develop into a new breed of conquerors.

A SHOE IN

This 10th-century shoe was discovered on the site of Viking **Jorvik** – modern-day York.



When Lindisfarne was attacked in AD 793, Viking invaders slaughtered innocent monks and raided the monastery's loot

of their Scandinavian homelands. However, in the summer some men would be called by their local leader to set sail on trading or raiding missions. These were, necessarily, violent – after all, the men went a-viking in search of riches.

DANGER FROM THE SEA

The image of dragon-headed longboats coursing across the seas towards terrified people who cowered on the coast screaming "the Vikings are coming" is the stuff of legend. Finds of Viking boats, such as the remarkable Gokstad ship discovered in Norway in 1880, reinforce the impression of dread speed and violent efficiency. These sleek vessels were designed to move fast, beach quickly and allow a quick return to sea – the perfect raiding vehicles.

During early raids on monasteries such as Lindisfarne, Vikings discovered poorly defended sites, often on the shores of rivers or the coast, occupied by pious monks and stuffed with vast amounts of portable wealth. The covers of gospels books were ripped off for their embellishments of gold and jewels, while the books themselves were taken hostage, to be sold back to the defeated Christians for vast sums. Raiding provided a quick and easy source of wealth, so a Viking who went raiding over the summer could support his family through the difficult winter months.



VIKINGS AT WAR

The ultimate fear-mongering warriors

Vikings engaged in wars both in their homelands and abroad. Their society was structured around an army elite, and military might was central to both their spiritual and ideological world views.

The main weapons Vikings had at their disposal were their fearsome longships. With their low berth, and the fact they could travel incredibly quickly, these often gave them the advantage against their enemies by bringing an element of surprise. They could be strung together and used to bring down the ships of their aggressors, assuring victory without even having to leave the water.

However, when they did disembark, they were also well equipped. While they did not use horses in terms of cavalry, they were highly effective fighters on foot. Every Viking freeman was required by law to to own weapons, and many were trained to be warriors from infancy. Weapons were symbols of wealth, power and the eternal glory a good warrior could receive in Valhalla. Many were highly decorated with symbolic beasts like boars and serpents.

Spears were most common, and could be used as javelins, or as thrusting weapons in hand-to-hand combat. Some bows and arrows were used, but striking and thrusting implements, like axes and swords, were favoured. They could protect their bodies with chain mail (although this was highly prized and expensive), with shields and with helmets. However, the horned helmet of legend is a fallacy, as those discovered tended to be simple cup-shapes, occasionally with nosepieces, goggles to protect the eyes, and neck flaps.

“The horned helmet of legend is a fallacy, as those discovered tended to be simple cup-shapes”

AXE

Axe heads elaborately decorated with gold and silver were used to prove a warrior's status.



HELMET

This Norse helmet - with horns nowhere to be seen - dates back to 10th-century Scandinavia.

LETHAL WEAPON

TREASURED SWORD

The most prized weapon in a Viking's armoury was his sword. Poems like *Beowulf*, and the Sagas record the names of individual swords, and many were identifiable through their beautiful fixtures and pattern-welded blade. Smiths could create incredible decorative effects in the centres of the blade by twisting together bands of metal in different arrangements. The edges would be placed around this strong and visually striking core to create a very powerful weapon. Men were trained from a young age in combat, so were able to control these heavy, precious objects with great skill.



SPEAR

Up to 3 metres long, spears were used as throwing, thrusting and slicing weapons, with deadly effect.





HELMET

A Viking's helmet could be split by a very heavy slice from a sword, but it did provide defence from most blows.

90

The diameter, in centimetres, of the average Viking shield

PADDING

Most Viking warriors would have worn a leather body protector to absorb the impact of heavy blows.

SHIELD

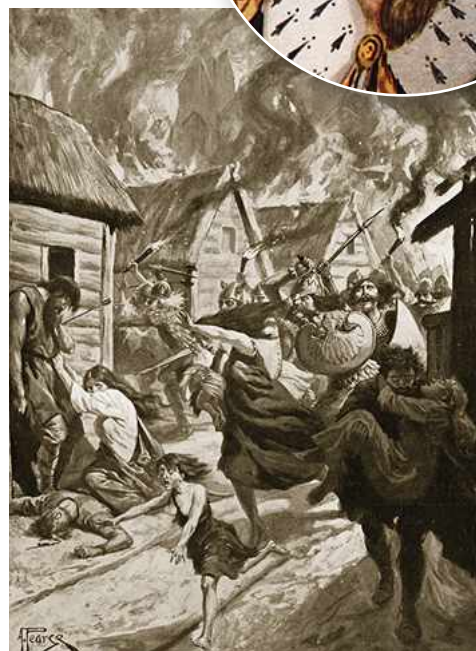
Fighters used large, round shields in battle. They were often placed along the edges of boats, too, but it's unknown if this was for defence or display.

BOOTS

Simple leather shoes, offering little protection, if any, are all they would have worn on their feet.

INTO WAR

ABOVE: Viking chess pieces take a warrior form
RIGHT: Alfred the Great led the armies of Wessex into battle with the Vikings



THE GREAT HEATHEN ARMY PLAN OF ATTACK

While early attacks on Britain had been largely uncoordinated, in AD 865 a group of Danish, Norwegian and Swedish Vikings came together to launch an organised assault on Anglo-Saxon England. Led by the sons of Norse ruler, Ragnar Lodbrok, with as many as 7,000 men, the campaigns lasted for 14 years and saw the establishment of the Danelaw region in northern England. Halted only by the efforts of Wessex, the Great Heathen Army managed to gain many victories and set up a permanent Scandinavian stronghold in the north.

A fort at Repton, Derbyshire, retains a chilling reminder that illness, rather than battle, could destroy armies. A grave of 250 bodies indicates that they were attacked by a contagious disease rather than their enemies.



LOOKING GLASS

ABOVE: Charlemagne is remembered as a Christian saviour
RIGHT: Glass beads were popular, and key trade items



But did Vikings simply rape, pillage and then return home in triumph? Many did – hoards of treasure unearthed in Scandinavia testify to the fact that they returned to their families with their booty. Such treasure troves often include coins from Byzantium, jewellery from Britain and even curiosities such as Buddha statues from the East. However, many Vikings chose to settle in the lands they raided.

Over centuries, the Scandinavians had become experts in ship-building and maritime navigation. They crossed the Norwegian Sea and sailed past Scotland to Ireland, where they found fertile lands and a strategic location for trade – particularly the traffic in slaves. It's thought that in 11th-century Iceland, a male slave could be sold for 12 ounces of silver, while a female could fetch eight ounces – a healthy sum equivalent to 24 sheep. This involvement in slavery certainly fits with the Vikings' violent image, but in truth it was an important and lucrative aspect of wider medieval society, prevalent across the known world.

VIOLENT TIMES

So it's true that the Vikings did use violence to further their own ends – though their forays did lead to peaceful settlement and governance of thriving towns in spots as far-flung as Greenland, Ireland, Iceland and Russia. Yes, their early raids were bloody – but this was a bloody time, and they weren't the only people to employ brutality.

Indeed, one of the most famous names of the early medieval period, the Roman Emperor Charlemagne, was responsible for at least one act that smacked of genocide. Backed by his *scara* – a vicious, elite bodyguard renowned for its fighting prowess – Charlemagne was battling his way across Europe. In AD 782, during an incident dubbed the Massacre of Verden, his army murdered more than 4,500



SEE NO EVIL

Not recognising Christianity as anything sacred, the Norse invaders saw no problem in ransacking monasteries

THE VIKINGS CAN BE SEEN AS A UNIFYING FACTOR ACROSS A GOOD DEAL OF THE WESTERN WORLD

rebel Saxons who had been delivered to him by a local ally. This was violence in its most brutal, unforgiving form – but Charlemagne’s biographer was Christian, and he wrote a favourable account of the ruler’s life. He was killing pagans, after all, and was seen as the ‘Father of the Church’ – so his place in the historical sun was secure.

DIFFERENT WORLDVIEWS

Indeed, the main reason Vikings have been endlessly painted as brutal and violent is that this reputation was forged in accounts written by those who were hostile to them. In the early medieval period, most texts were produced by Christian monks. Scandinavians did not produce long texts until the Sagas of the 12th century and later, though these record the acts of Vikings in a rather more noble manner, they were also written after many of these northern territories had converted to Christianity.

As we know, history is written by the victors – and in the case of the Vikings, the victors were Christians. The Viking way of life – with its emphasis on heroism, the pursuit of wealth and a warrior existence that would continue eternally at Valhalla – sat uncomfortably alongside Christian ideals of piety, poverty and peace. Given their attacks on churches and monasteries, it’s not surprising that surviving accounts are almost entirely one-sided.

But in fact the Vikings should be seen rather differently: as a unifying force throughout a large swathe of the western world. Viking DNA has permeated nations ranging from Scotland to Spain and from Russia to France, and their culture has had a lasting and profound effect on western identity. Rather than being reduced to caricatures of barbarity, the Vikings can be seen as common ancestors, binding races together.

And what about those horned helmets? Well, they simply didn’t wear them. 🙄



EXPERT VIEW

“A REPUTATION FOR VIOLENCE WAS EVERYTHING”

University of Winchester historian Ryan Lavelle argues that the Vikings deserve their brutal reputation

Why do the Vikings have such a hold on our imaginations?

There are so many reasons, which often overlap. The idea of the sheer terror that raiders must have visited upon communities, the sense of the romance of the outlaw – the pirate we can’t help but be gripped by.

There’s the exploration, too, which included crossing dangerous oceans and establishing new societies in hostile environments.

Do they deserve their violent reputation?

Yes. In early medieval Europe, groups of men, often young men, went ‘viking’. Violence played an important part in allowing them to assert themselves in societies where codes of behaviour and expectations were already well established so, for many (though not, I should add, for all), a reputation for violence was everything.

Which Viking most deserves to be remembered?

As the Old Norse poem the *Hávamál* has it, cattle die, kinsmen die, you die, but reputation lives on. All the great Viking leaders deserve to be remembered, but Harald Hardrada (‘Hard-ruler’) of Norway – whose military service stretched from Constantinople to Kiev, before becoming King of Norway and dying in the 1066 Battle of Stamford Bridge – is up there for me as the ‘last hurrah’ of the Viking Age.

GET HOOKED!

If the tales of marauding Vikings and their expansion around the world have captured your imagination, why not embark on your own personal quest to find out more?

EXHIBITIONS AND COLLECTIONS

Treasures from the Viking Age can be found in museums all over the world



▲ VIKING SHIP MUSEUM, OSLO

If you're ever in Norway, visit the Oseberg, Gokstad and Tune ships. Find out more at www.khm.uio.no/english

▼ JORVIK CENTRE, YORK

Take in the sights (and smells) of a Viking settlement or explore the houses, workshops and streets of the 1,000-year-old remains of the Viking capital in England – Jorvik. jorvik-viking-centre.co.uk



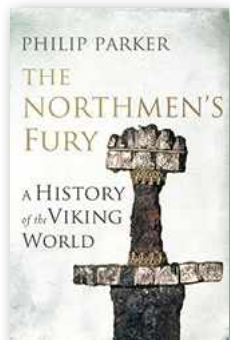
CHECKMATE
The Lewis Chessmen were made from whales' teeth and walrus ivory

▲ BRITISH MUSEUM, LONDON

There is so much to see at this major exhibition, from weapons and coins to art and obscure artefacts. The centrepiece is the 37-metre warship, Roskilde 6 – the longest-known Viking boat. The exhibition runs until 22 June. Book at www.britishmuseum.org

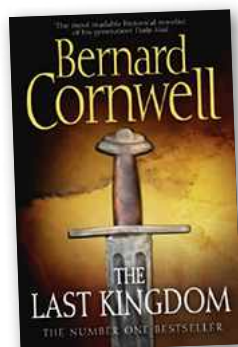
BOOKS AND WEBSITES

From the early raids to invading armies, the brutal and fascinating history of the Vikings has inspired a wide range of literature



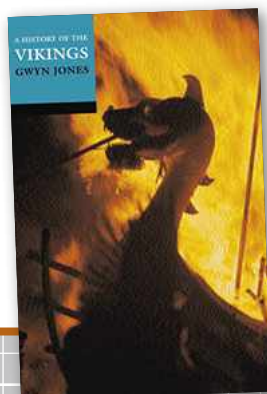
▲ THE NORTHMEN'S FURY

(2014) by Philip Parker
When Vikings raided the island monastery of Lindisfarne, the monks discovered the extent of the 'Northmen's Fury'.



▲ THE LAST KINGDOM (2010)

by Bernard Cornwell
Uhtred is an English boy living during the reign of Alfred the Great when he is captured by a Dane and taught to be a Viking. This is the start of fictional series, *Warrior Chronicles*.



▲ A HISTORY OF THE VIKINGS

(2001) by Gwyn Jones
With plenty of illustrations, this is a useful guide through the Viking Age, introducing key elements of Viking culture, religion, art, seafaring and, of course, warfare.

CINEMA, FILM AND TELEVISION

The Vikings have been a regular feature on the small and big screens. Here are our picks...

► VIKINGS (DVD)

Neil Oliver's BBC series goes deeper than the brutal reputation of the Vikings. He discovers how their culture was nearly lost before they put their longships to sea and built an empire from Istanbul to North America.



◀ HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (2010)

With a sequel coming to cinemas later this year, catch up with the heartwarming story of the young Viking Hiccup and his pet dragon. This great family film shows the softer side of the Vikings.

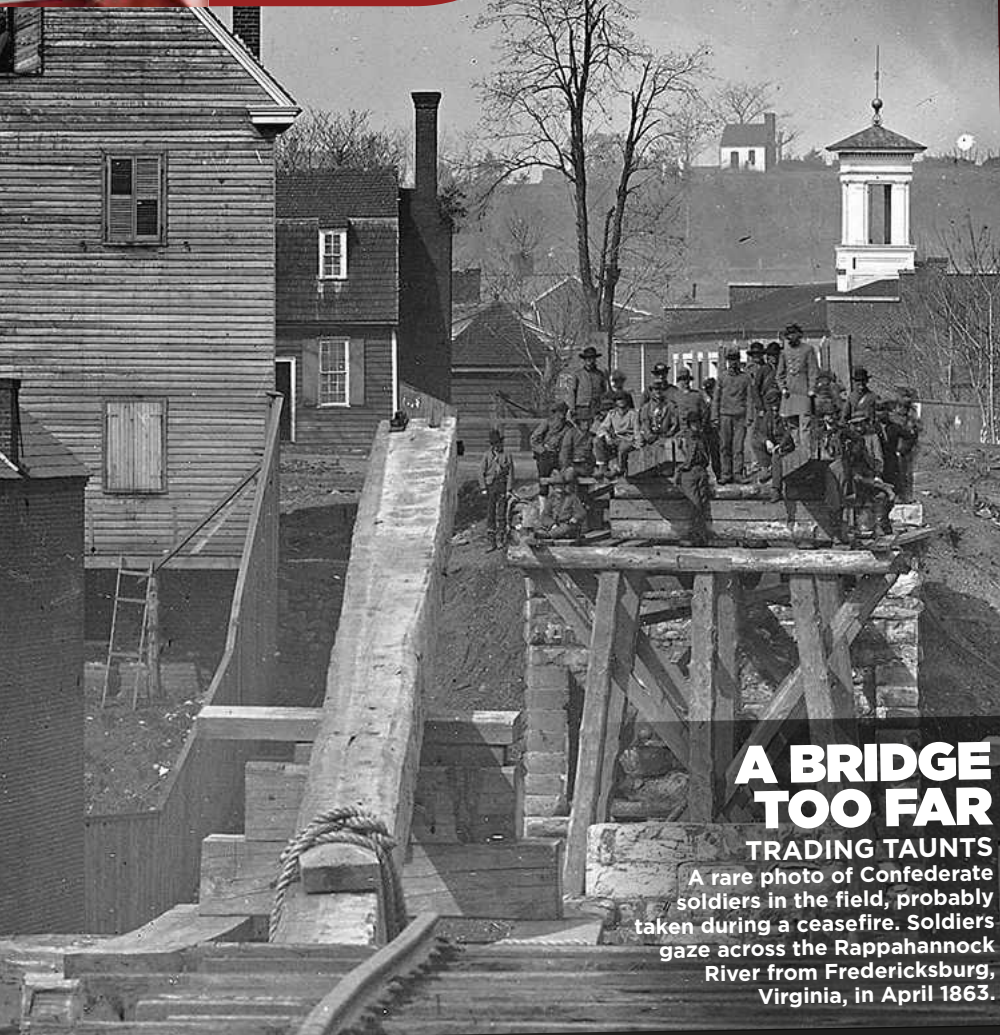
► THE VIKINGS (1958)

Kirk Douglas and Tony Curtis star in this classic action adventure, where two Viking half-brothers fight for the throne of Northumbria, and the beautiful Morgana. Just don't expect too much in terms of historical accuracy.





**IN PICTURES
AMERICAN
CIVIL WAR**



A BRIDGE TOO FAR

TRADING TAUNTS

A rare photo of Confederate soldiers in the field, probably taken during a ceasefire. Soldiers gaze across the Rappahannock River from Fredericksburg, Virginia, in April 1863.

A NATION DIVIDED...

Shots fired at a Union stronghold signalled the start of the conflict



FLASH POINT WHERE THE WAR BEGAN

Confederate flags fly over Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina, just days after the bastion was taken. The first shots of the war were fired on this fort by the South on 12 April 1861.

LOCAL HERO

STALWART OF THE SOUTH

General Robert E Lee, commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, was the most successful and respected Confederate military leader. His troops defeated several Union generals over the course of the war.



NORTH VS SOUTH

The American Civil War, four years of bloodshed that claimed around 750,000 lives, was the first major conflict to be extensively photographed – and the results are revealing...

GREAT GRANT

PRESIDENTIAL PROMISE

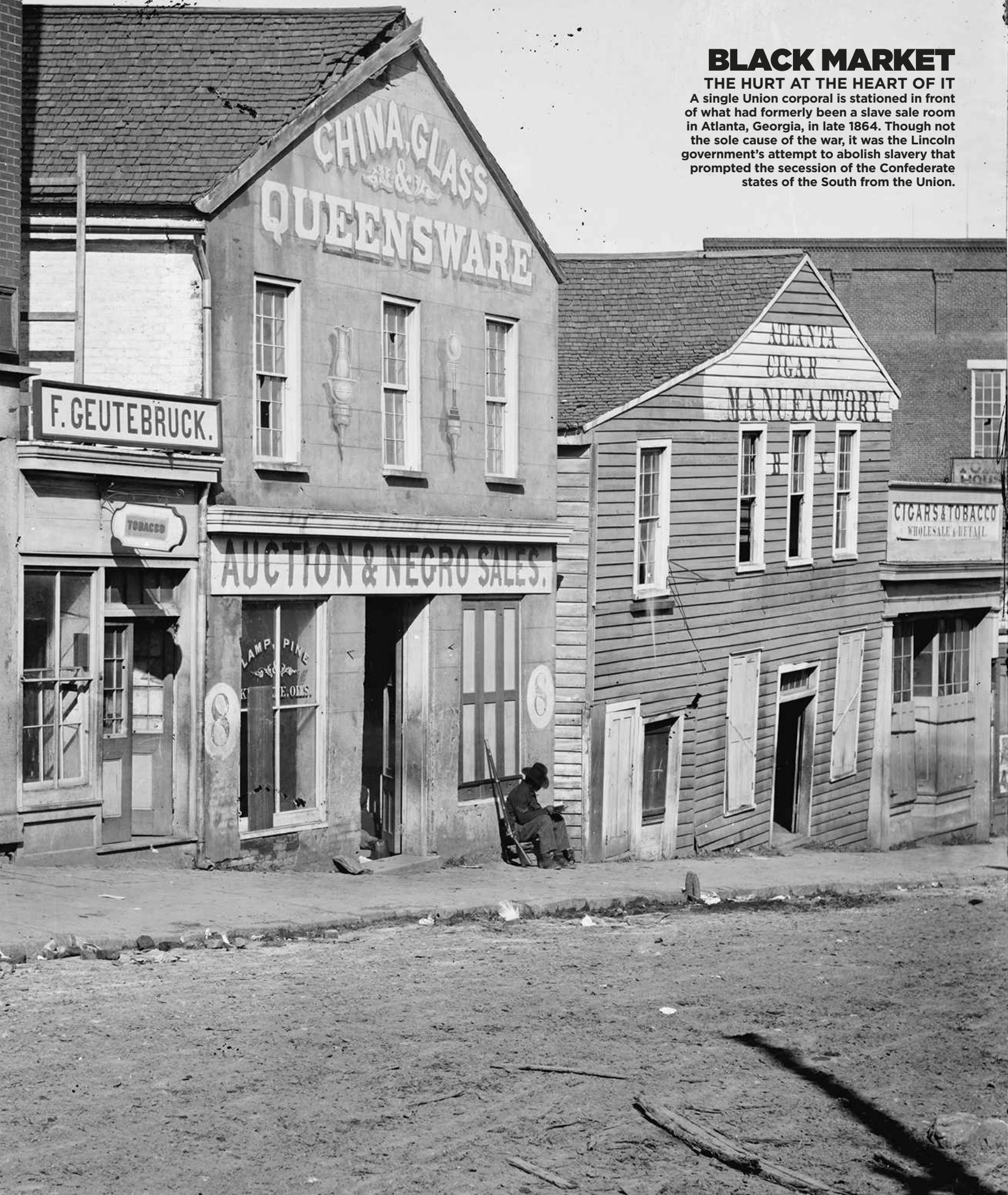
Ulysses S Grant, commander of the Union army, rests at his HQ in Cold Harbour, Virginia, in 1864. Grant accepted Lee's surrender in 1865, and became President four years later.

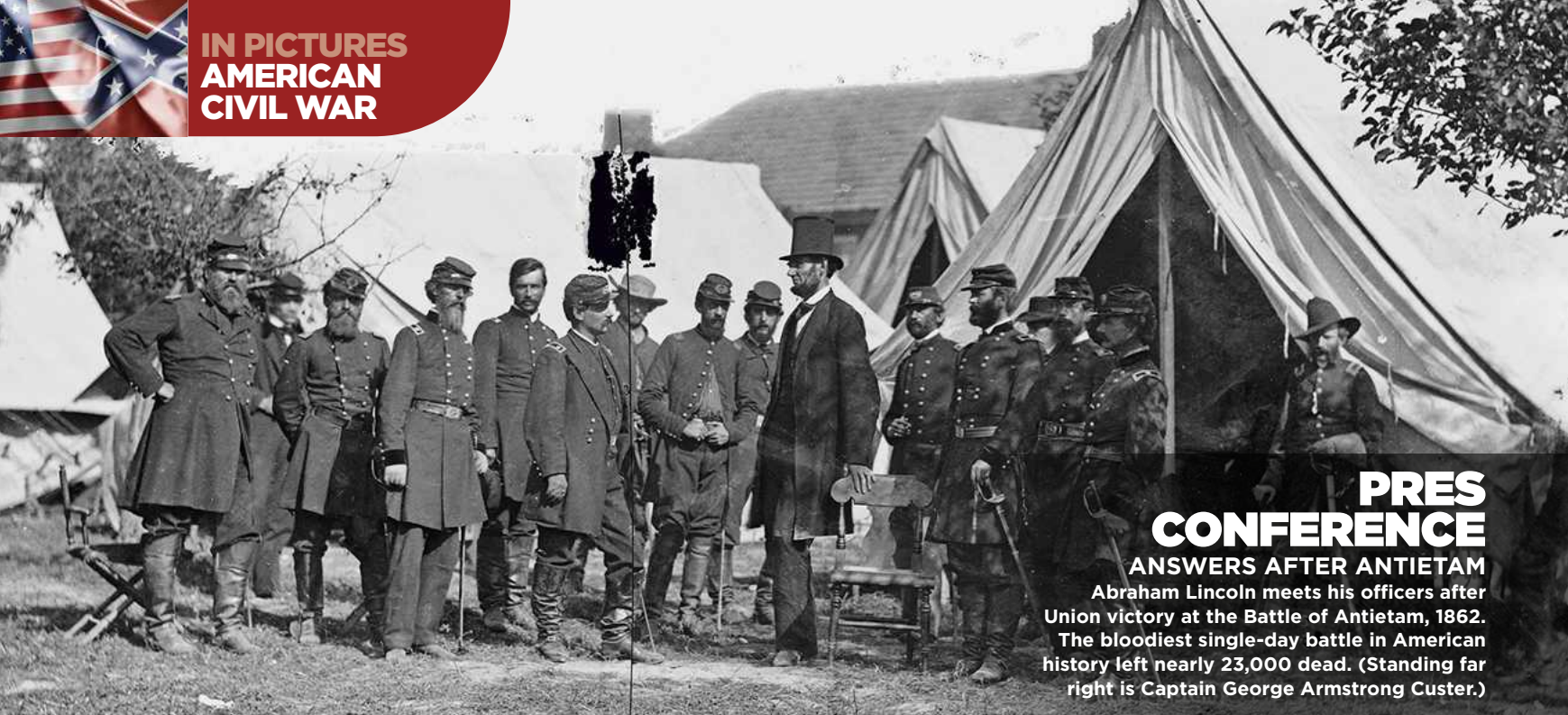


BLACK MARKET

THE HURT AT THE HEART OF IT

A single Union corporal is stationed in front of what had formerly been a slave sale room in Atlanta, Georgia, in late 1864. Though not the sole cause of the war, it was the Lincoln government's attempt to abolish slavery that prompted the secession of the Confederate states of the South from the Union.





PRES CONFERENCE

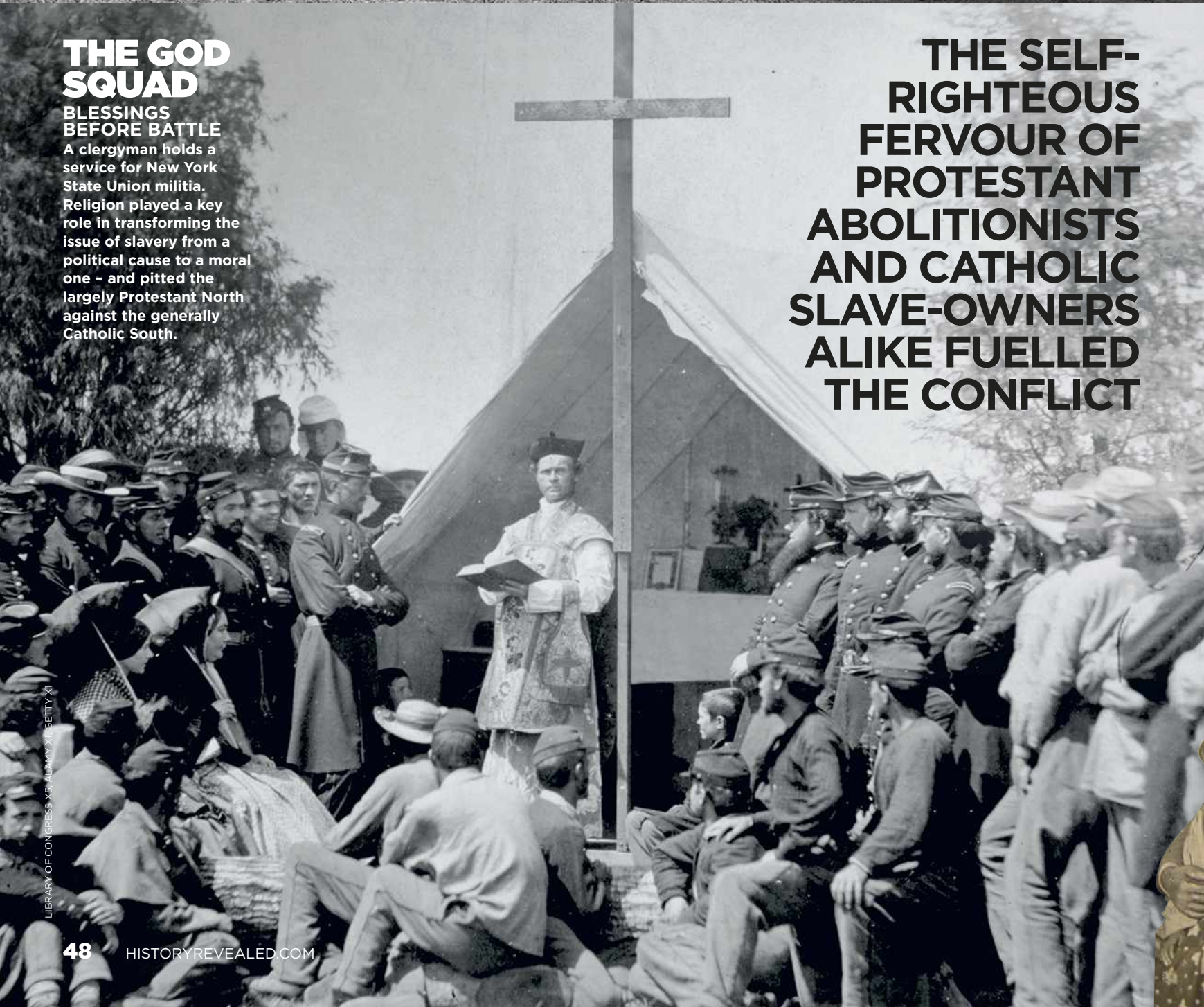
ANSWERS AFTER ANTIETAM

Abraham Lincoln meets his officers after Union victory at the Battle of Antietam, 1862. The bloodiest single-day battle in American history left nearly 23,000 dead. (Standing far right is Captain George Armstrong Custer.)

THE GOD SQUAD

**BLESSINGS
BEFORE BATTLE**

A clergyman holds a service for New York State Union militia. Religion played a key role in transforming the issue of slavery from a political cause to a moral one – and pitted the largely Protestant North against the generally Catholic South.



THE SELF- RIGHTEOUS FERVOUR OF PROTESTANT ABOLITIONISTS AND CATHOLIC SLAVE-OWNERS ALIKE FUELLED THE CONFLICT

FREEDOM FIGHTERS...

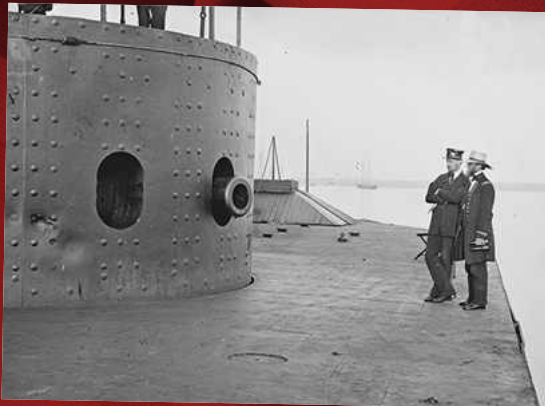
The soldiers of both sides believed they were battling for liberty



SPEECH MARKS

LINCOLN LINES UP TO ORATE

At the back of this picture, taken at the Union cemetery at Gettysburg on 19 November 1863, the head of Abraham Lincoln can just be made out. Hours later, he delivered his most famous speech, expressing hope for "a new birth of freedom".



IRON GIANT

TRANSFORMING THE WAR ON WATER

US Navy officers inspect the revolving turret of the USS *Monitor*, one of the first 'ironclads' - steam-propelled, armoured warships that changed forever how sea battles were fought.

FAMILY PHOTO

AFRICAN-AMERICANS IN ARMS

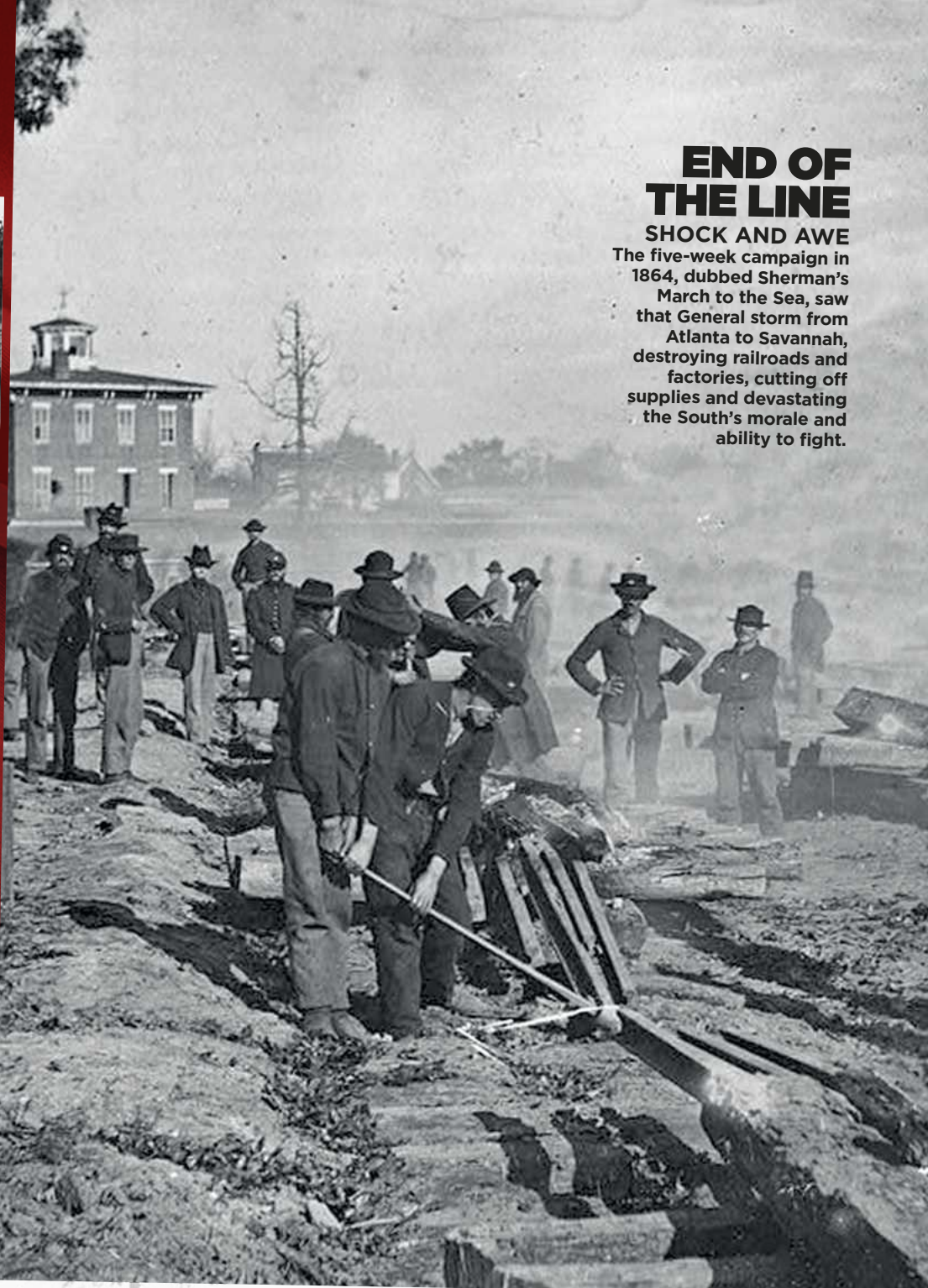
This soldier, pictured with his wife and daughters, probably enlisted in Maryland around 1864. The Union army resumed recruiting black soldiers in 1862, and some 200,000 African-Americans fought under the Stars and Stripes.



END OF THE LINE

SHOCK AND AWE

The five-week campaign in 1864, dubbed Sherman's March to the Sea, saw that General storm from Atlanta to Savannah, destroying railroads and factories, cutting off supplies and devastating the South's morale and ability to fight.



SIGHTS ON THE SEA

BRING OUT THE BIG GUNS

General William T Sherman leans on the breach of a cannon in Atlanta as he prepares for the march. His offensive, which saw plantations pillaged, spelled the beginning of the end for the Confederacy.





KILLERS KILLED

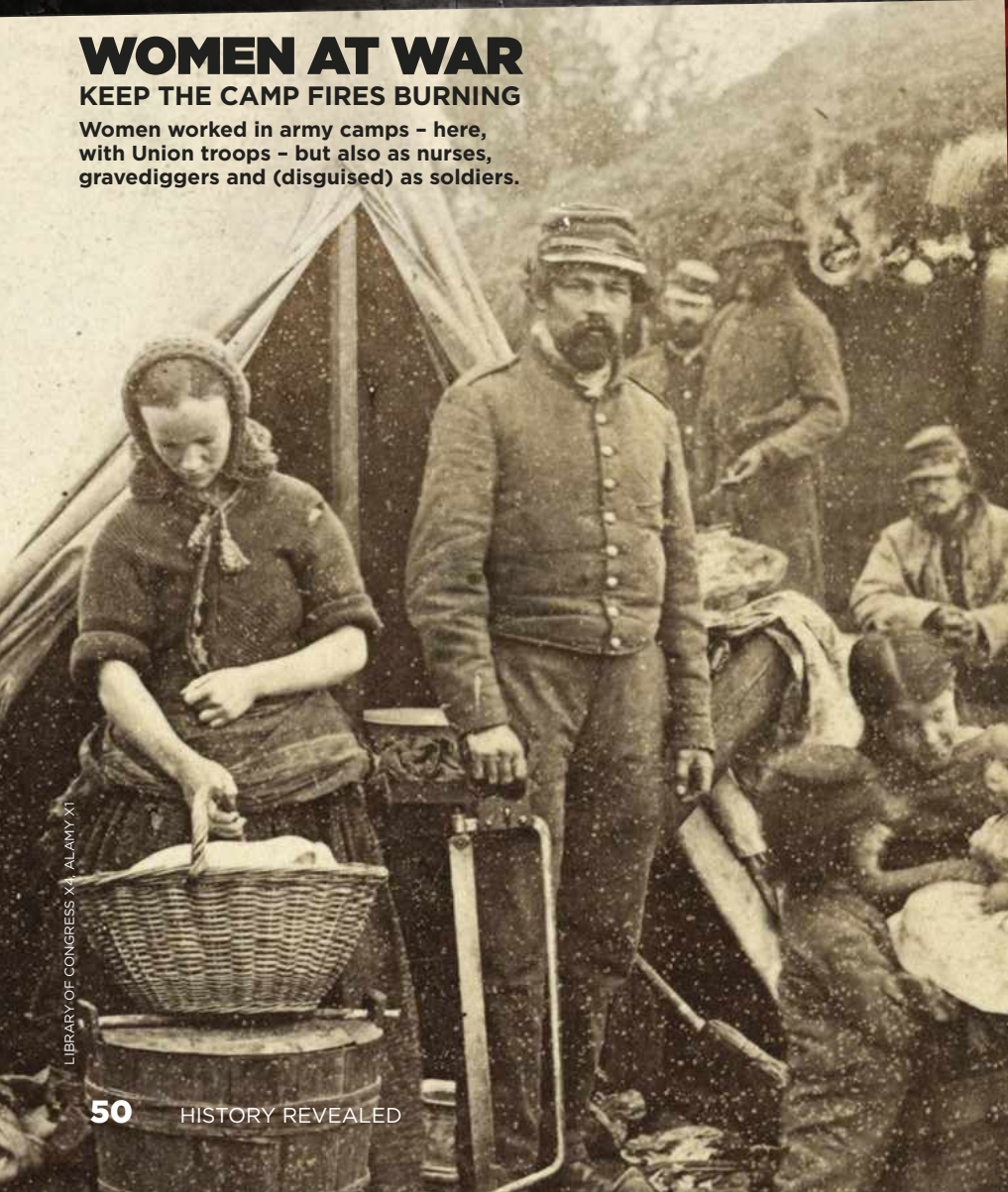
CONSPIRATORS' COME-UPPANCE

Four Confederate sympathisers involved in the plot to assassinate Lincoln – who was shot by John Wilkes Booth on 14 April 1865 – are hung in Washington on 7 July.

WOMEN AT WAR

KEEP THE CAMP FIRES BURNING

Women worked in army camps – here, with Union troops – but also as nurses, gravediggers and (disguised) as soldiers.



THE FALLEN & THE FREED...

Photographs graphically depicted the dead, the wounded and the liberated

'BLANK HORROR'

A HARVEST OF DEATH

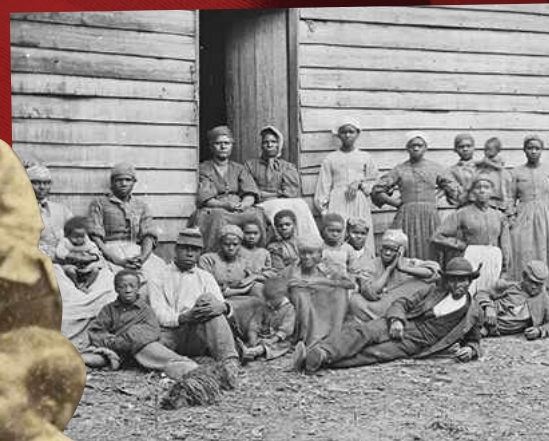
Timothy H O'Sullivan's picture of dead soldiers at Gettysburg in July 1863 was among the first photos to show battle victims. The same bodies were photographed from different angles to portray both Union and Confederate dead.



HEALING HANDS

WOMEN ON THE WARDS

A nurse treats wounded troops. Many women were inspired by the example of Florence Nightingale's work in the Crimean War; some escaped slaves tended to injured black soldiers.



'CONTRABAND'

FUGITIVE OR FREE?

These escaped slaves, pictured in 1862, were declared 'contraband' by the Union army. This effectively allowed the North to dismantle the slave-owning structure of the South without actually imposing the abolition of slavery.

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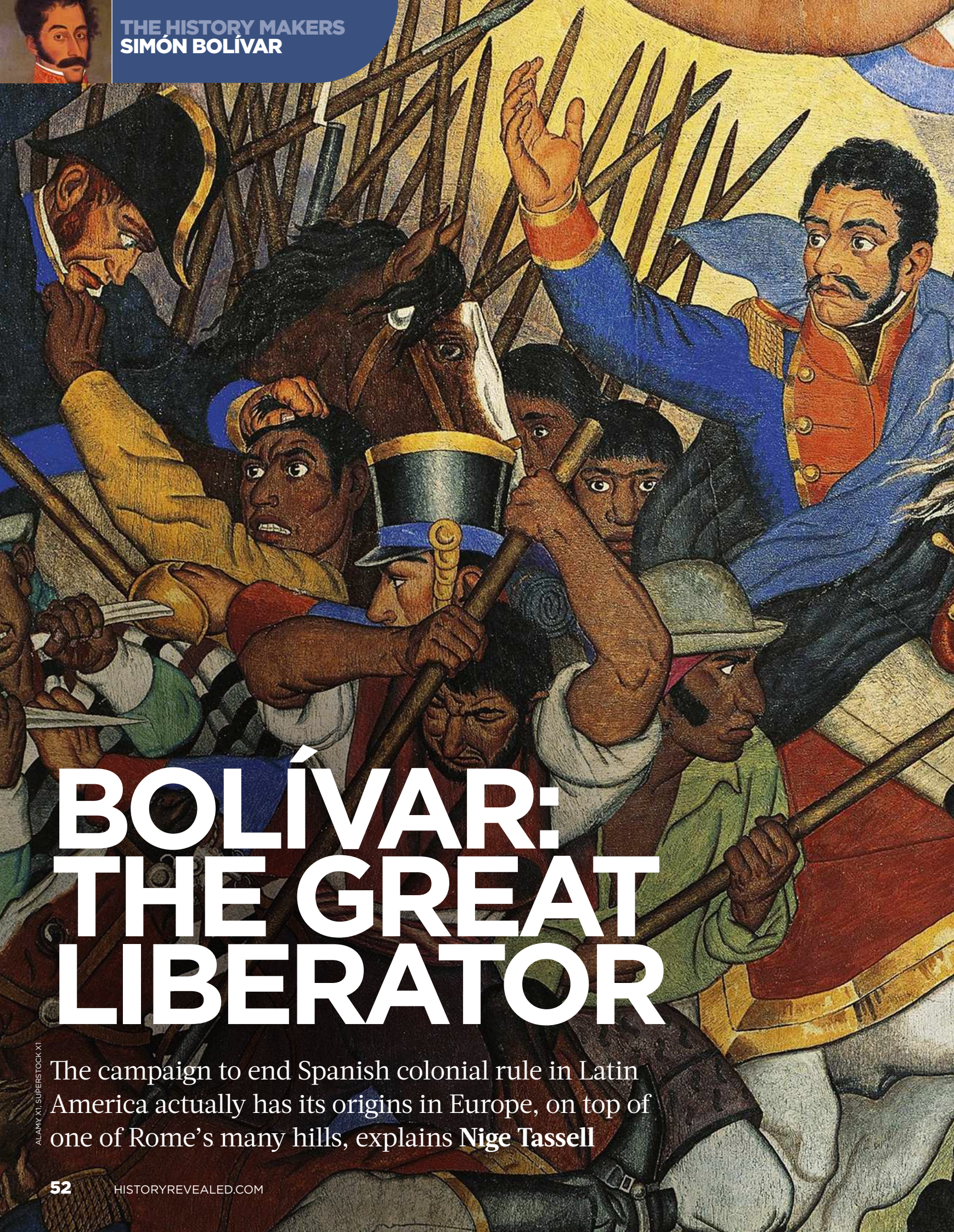
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THE HISTORY MAKERS
SIMÓN BOLÍVAR



BOLÍVAR: THE GREAT LIBERATOR

The campaign to end Spanish colonial rule in Latin America actually has its origins in Europe, on top of one of Rome's many hills, explains **Nige Tassell**

ALAMY XT, SUPERSTOCK XT



Simón Bolívar remains a hero throughout much of South America for the key role he played in liberation from the Spanish Empire



PARIS 1804

In his early twenties, Simón Bolívar travels around Europe. Within a year of this Parisian scene, he has an epiphany atop Monte Sacro in Rome, declaring his intention to free his native Venezuela from Spanish rule.



1813 THE ADMIRABLE CAMPAIGN

After the short-lived First Republic of Venezuela in 1812, Bolívar regrouped and led a march from neighbouring New Granada (modern-day Colombia) right to the Venezuelan capital Caracas in order to re-establish the republic.

On the way, in the city of Trujillo, Bolívar issues his Decree of War to the Death: "Spaniards and Canarians, count on death, even if indifferent, if you do not actively work in favour of the independence of America."



Simón Bolívar's statue in Kingston, Jamaica

This was an unlikely location and he was an unlikely revolutionary. Yet from his vantage point on the Roman hill of Monte Sacro, on a hot August day in 1805, a wealthy young Venezuelan by the name of

Simón Bolívar announced his intention to fight for independence for his home country, to form a republic free to determine its own future.

Gazing down over the remnants and ruins of the Roman Empire, the 22-year-old Bolívar held out his arm and made a pronouncement that would directly shape the future of an entire continent. He had no pulpit to speak from, no mass audience hushed to hear every word. "I swear before you," the young idealist announced to his sole travelling companion, "that I will not let my arm rest, not give my soul repose, until I have broken the chains that

oppress us by order of the Spanish authorities." From this vantage point – and with the clear eyes that distance provides – the young idealist dedicated himself to the dissolution of colonial rule in South America many thousands of miles away. Little would Bolívar have known that, two centuries later, he would still be seen as the godfather of Latin America as we know it today.

Born into privilege and wealth in Caracas in 1783, the young Simón José Antonio de la Santísima Trinidad Bolívar y Palacios Ponte y Blanco was orphaned at a young age; his colonel father passed away when the infant was only two years old, while his mother died before he reached the age of nine.

The premature deaths of both parents changed the direction of Bolívar's life – and therefore became highly significant to Latin American history. After a number of ill-fitting

guardianships, he was placed under the tutelage of Don Simón Rodríguez, the mentor who would – through the works of great libertarian thinkers like Locke, Rousseau and Montesquieu – expose this man of privilege to the notion of universal liberty and freedom. Indeed, it was Rodríguez who was the travelling companion on that summer's day in Rome, the tutor whose influence came to yield, over the next two decades, extraordinary fruit.

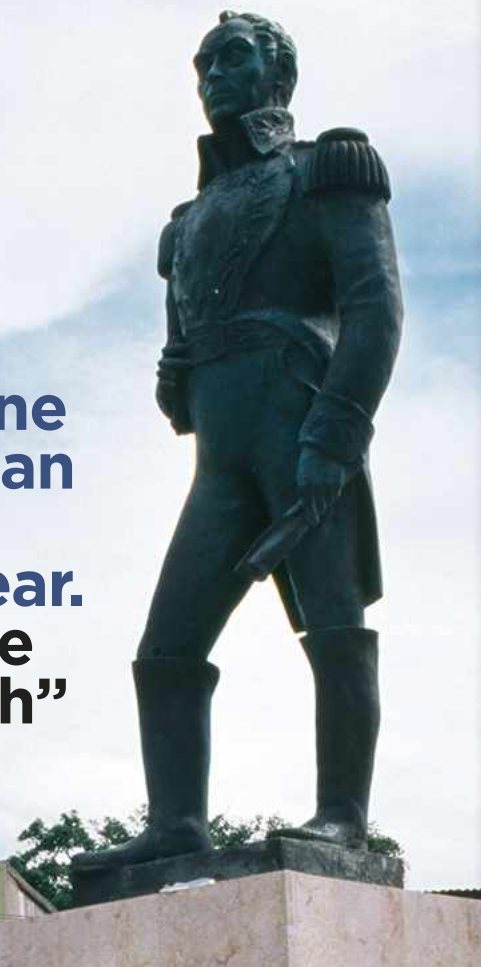
THE FIRST REVOLT

After his extensive travels in Europe, in 1807 Bolívar – by then a widower, despite his tender years – returned to his native Venezuela where, having had extensive military training as a teenager, he took command of an army unit. Three years later, the Spanish authorities in Caracas were overthrown and a junta established. In search of both recognition of the independence cause and arms to fortify the struggle, Bolívar returned to Europe. While unsuccessful in his primary purpose, he arrived back in South America with Francisco de Miranda, a pro-independence activist living in exile in Britain, who would become head of the republic when Venezuela's independence was

HUGO CHAVEZ, FORMER PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA
"I'm far from comparing myself with our father Bolívar. I'm a microscopic soldier next to the giant"



“I deny being a visionary. Let us lay the cornerstone of American freedom without fear. To hesitate is to perish”



1815 LETTER FROM JAMAICA

After the second Venezuelan Republic fails, Bolívar goes into exile in Jamaica, where he issues his Carta de Jamaica (Letter From Jamaica). The despatch has several purposes, among them the detailing of a union of South American

republics to ward off Spanish aggression. The letter is also a thinly veiled invitation for Britain, the most powerful nation of the time, to add its weight to the campaign for independence.

1819 BATTLE OF BOYACÁ

A key battle in the fight for the independence of New Granada, the republican forces – bolstered by British and Irish veterans of the Napoleonic Wars – defeat the Spanish, more than half of whom are taken prisoner. The road to Bogotá – and independence – is now largely unguarded. The day of the battle, 7 August, remains a national holiday in Colombia.



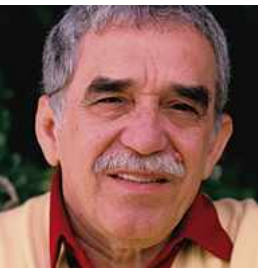
campaigning was largely unsuccessful, save for assistance offered by Haiti, a republic previously colonised by both Spain and France. Returning to Venezuela with these Haitian materials and manpower, Bolívar quickly established himself as the leader of the independence movement, unafraid to show his strength among his contemporaries (an example being the execution of fellow high-ranking republican Manuel Piar).

With a Third Republic soon declared and Bolívar sworn in as President, he was determined to maintain the momentum of independence, setting his sights on the liberation of New Granada. Leading a modest army over the border, the campaign saw arguably his most famous military victory, at the Battle of Boyacá, where a large swathe of royalist soldiers surrendered. With Bogotá and the rest of New Granada soon under republican control, Bolívar drew up a blueprint for the union of Venezuela and New Granada to create a new country – Gran Colombia. Ratified in 1819, Bolívar was elected head of state.

After the Spanish withdrawal from Colombia – and as with later independence movements, such as in Africa in the early 1960s or Eastern Europe at the turn of the 1990s – the tide gates opened for other countries to declare an end to colonial rule. Although not inevitable – and only achieved by sharp military thinking and heavy bloodshed – the dominoes toppled in a comparatively short space of time. In

GABRIEL GARCIA MARQUEZ,
COLOMBIAN WRITER

“Bolívar imagined Latin America as an autonomous and unified alliance. He had a very nice phrase for it – ‘We are like a small mankind of our own’”



declared in 1811. But this First Republic was short-lived. With power split across a federal system of government, royalist factions loyal to the Spanish were able to undermine republican unity, and colonial rule returned in August 1812.

Bolívar himself became a key player in the struggle to restore the Venezuelan republic. While exiled in Cartagena in neighbouring New Granada, he formally reiterated his ambitions for the overthrow of Spanish rule in his Cartagena Manifesto. In 1813, as head of a New Granadan military force, Bolívar led the Admirable Campaign, an overpowering march on Caracas that resulted in the Second Venezuelan Republic. Again, though, royalist forces regrouped and retook the Venezuelan capital the following year.

This military and political see-sawing was becoming familiar. Another Bolívar-led campaign, this time in New Granada, saw his forces take control of Bogotá in late 1814; however, within a few months, royalist advances forced him into exile again, this time in the sanctity of the Caribbean. While there, Bolívar wrote his famous Letter From Jamaica, in which he outlined his vision for South America and the desired political landscape in the post-colonial world. It was one that held pragmatism ahead of idealism: “Do not adopt the best system of government,” he wrote, “but the one that is most likely to succeed.”

In order to achieve his goals, Bolívar set about persuading foreign powers to offer up aid for his assault on the might of the Spanish Empire. His



THE HISTORY MAKERS SIMÓN BOLÍVAR



1819 ESTABLISHMENT OF GRAN COLOMBIA

Venezuela and New Granada combine to create the new country of Gran Colombia. Bolívar is installed as head of state.

Plaza de Bolívar,
Bogotá, Colombia



1830 DEATH

At the age of 47, Bolívar dies from tuberculosis, the same year that Gran Colombia fractures and splits.

1822, the end of Spanish rule in Ecuador saw the newly independent territory added to Gran Colombia. Two years later, Bolívar-led forces liberated Peru, where its congress declared the Venezuelan to be the new republic's leader, making him simultaneously the head of state of two South American nations. In addition, the subsequent liberation of Upper Peru led to the formation of the Republic of Bolívar – what we now know as Bolivia.

INIQUITY AND DISPARITY

With separate republican forces liberating Argentina, Chile and Uruguay, Spanish rule had been erased from South America. But unifying Gran Colombia, spread over a large geographical area, was a difficult task. Furthermore, the socio-political changes that Bolívar drew up couldn't necessarily be described as particularly revolutionary. Boxed-in by the political lie of the land, he couldn't jeopardise this new-found independence by overhauling society and incurring the wrath of the still-economically dominant elites. South America remained pockmarked by iniquity and disparity. In 1828, Bolívar – with an almost audible sigh – wrote of his frustrations. "In Colombia, there is an aristocracy of rank, office and wealth, equivalent

by its influence, its pretensions and its pressure on the people, to the most despotic aristocracy of titles and birth in Europe... In spite of all their liberalism, they prefer to regard the lower classes as their perpetual serfs."

Bolívar's political manoeuvring was often a wobbly tightrope walk between offering democracy and retaining the singularity of authority. If idealism loaded the gun, it was pragmatism that fired the trigger. An early illustration of this is found when one analyses his approach to the issue of slavery during the wars of independence. Although undoubtedly an abolitionist, Bolívar nonetheless tied slaves' freedom to conscription into his armed forces to bulk up his troops in the fight against royalist forces loyal to Spain. Political theory rarely dovetailed with the realpolitik.

Bolívar was never a believer in pure democracy, increasingly advocating life-long presidencies and the right to appoint successors. The president of any political system should be, he believed, "the Sun which, fixed in its orbit, imparts life to the Universe". The Great Liberator was offering only partial liberation, believing elections to be "the greatest scourge of republics [that] produce only anarchy".

Indeed, Bolívar would go one step further. In 1828, in an attempt to prevent the splintering of Gran Colombia and strengthen the central government's hand, he named himself dictator, a move that merely stoked the dissatisfaction of his opponents and made him the target of an unsuccessful assassination attempt.

But, despite the ultimate dissolution of Gran Colombia in 1830, Bolívar will be forever remembered as the principal driver of South American independence, the architect of the continent's post-colonial identity. Six countries – Venezuela, Colombia, Panama, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia – owe their self-determination both to his theories of pan-Americanism and to his military strategy in overpowering the Spanish.

But when he died from tuberculosis in December 1830 at the age of 47, Bolívar was embittered by thwarted ambition. The idealism so passionately articulated by the young man on that Rome hillside 25 years earlier had been tempered and soured. But throughout his struggles, Bolívar's commitment hadn't wavered an inch, his hands-on style of leadership driven by both reason and passion.

Streets, squares, cities, countries and currencies continue to be named after this son of Caracas. His were an action-packed 47 years, a life defined by commitment and dedication to the cause. He fought until the last, as recalled by his confidant Daniel F O'Leary, who likened the final hours of the great Venezuelan to "the last embers of an expiring volcano, the dust of the Andes still on his garments".

ALAMY X2, CORBIS XI, GETTY XI

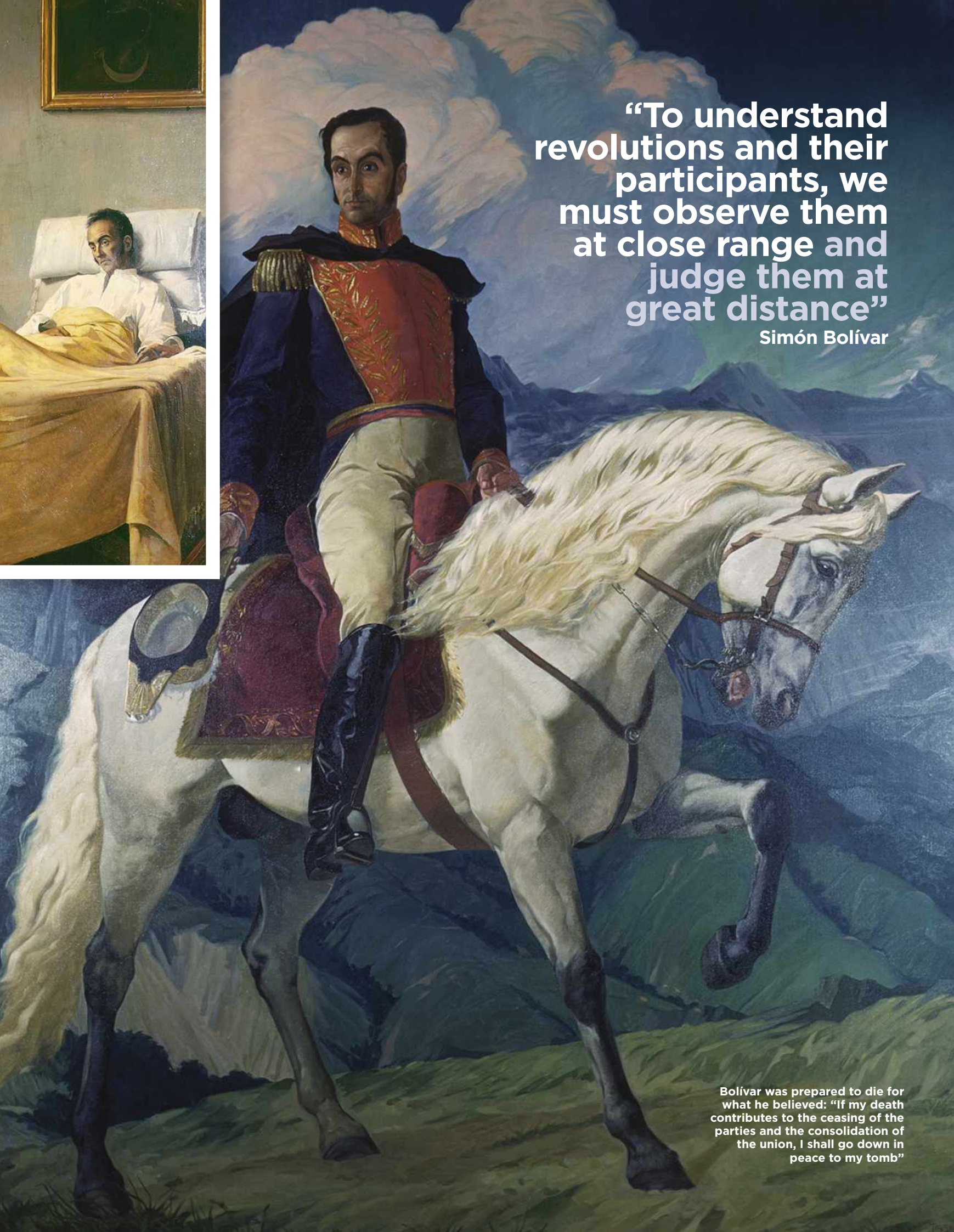
OLIVER TAMBO, SOUTH AFRICAN
ANTI-APARTHEID POLITICIAN
"Nelson Mandela and Simon Bolívar
stand out for the similarities of
their lives and understanding
of their times"





**“To understand
revolutions and their
participants, we
must observe them
at close range and
judge them at
great distance”**

Simón Bolívar



Bolívar was prepared to die for what he believed: “If my death contributes to the ceasing of the parties and the consolidation of the union, I shall go down in peace to my tomb”

10 strangest fads in history

From the comical to the creepy, people have done some really kooky things over the last few hundred years...

IN THE BUFF

Popular among uni students for centuries, campus streaking became epidemic in the seventies. In 1974, the fad entered into a new sphere – the sporting stadium – when one exhibitionist

exposed himself during a rugby match at Twickenham. Over the next decade, all sorts of matches were flash-dashed, securing the flaunters their 15 seconds of fame and cheers from the crowds.

COP AN EYEFUL

Erica Roe is arrested after her memorable topless run across the pitch at Twickenham, in 1982



TULIP MANIA

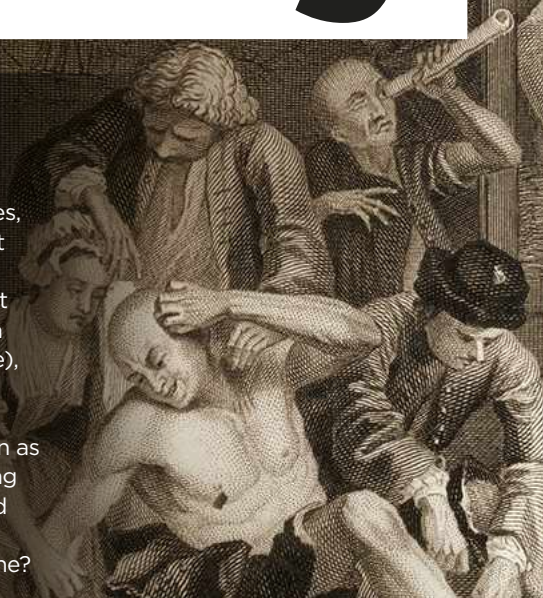
In early 17th-century Europe, tulips were absurdly popular. Newly introduced from Turkey, their vivid petals were unlike any blooms seen before and they quickly became luxury items, sending

prices sky high. Reportedly, at the height of 'tulip mania', a single bulb could fetch ten times the annual income of a skilled craftsman. But the craze couldn't last. The bubble burst in 1637, perhaps after an outbreak of the plague; the market collapsed and prices plummeted, leading to one of the world's first economic crashes.



A CRAZY DAY OUT

In the 17th and 18th centuries, many people enjoyed a visit to the 'lunatics' of Bethlem asylum. For a penny (except on the first Tuesday of each month, when entry was free), almost anyone could walk among the patients of the hospital that became known as 'Bedlam'. Visitors could bring a stick with which to defend themselves – and poke the inmates. Who's the crazy one?



CRUEL CURIO

People would pay a very high price for a tattooed head



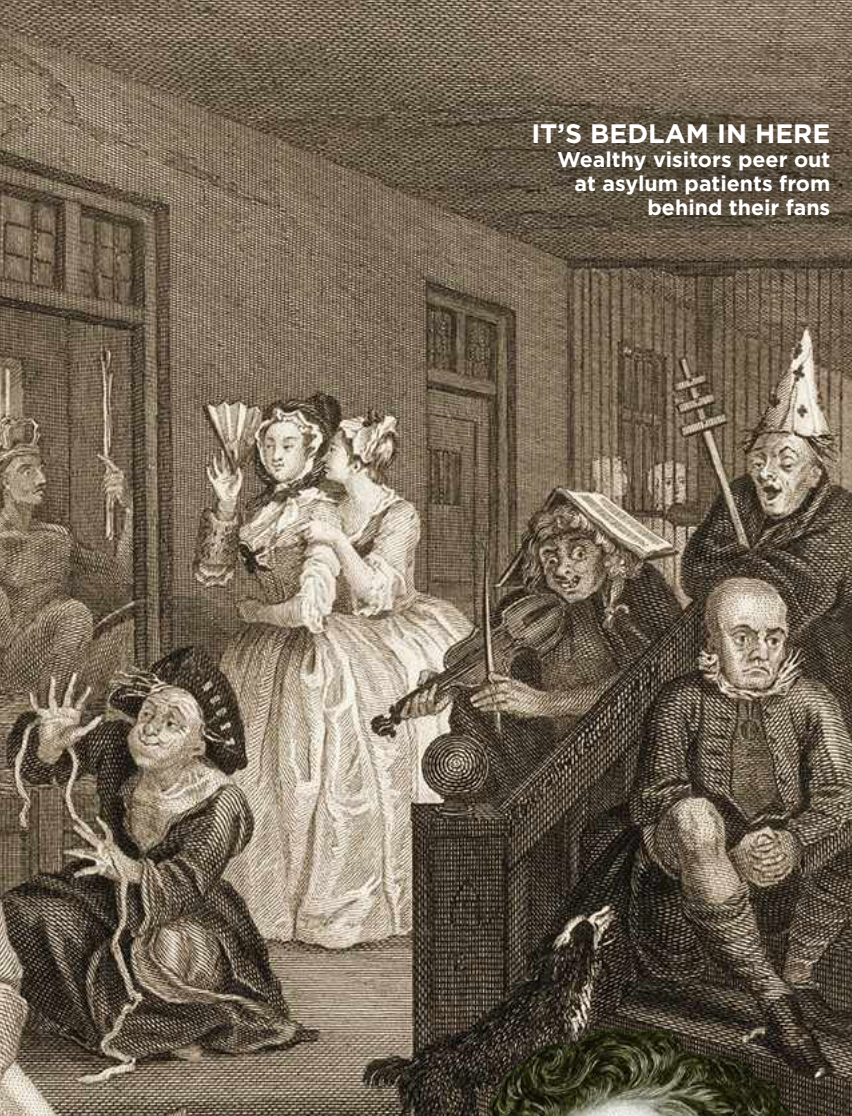
DEADLY TRADE

In the early 19th century, when the first colonists began to settle in New Zealand, a dark trade sprang up. At that time, many Maoris sported *tā moko*, traditional facial tattoos, and the fascination of Europeans for *mokomokai* – the dried, preserved heads of tattooed men – created a lucrative market. Indeed, Maoris with *tā moko* became at risk of being murdered and decapitated to fuel the trade.

GULPING GOLDFISH

In 1939, after a Harvard University student swallowed a live fish for a bet, a craze for goldfish-gulping contests swept campuses across the US. One *Washington Post* headline read: "Goldfish Gulping Derby Lead Taken By Penn, 25 to 24". The record was 101 goldfish gulped in one sitting.





IT'S BEDLAM IN HERE
Wealthy visitors peer out
at asylum patients from
behind their fans

A RADIANT GLOW

After radium was discovered in 1898 – but before the harmful effects of radiation were understood – this glowing metal was used in an astonishing range of goods. Beauty products promised a healthy glow, while radium-infused chocolate claimed to make you look younger. Perhaps least helpful was Radithor – radioactive water promoted for the treatment of arthritis, mental illnesses, impotence and cancer.



GETTING INTO THE SPIRIT

In March 1848, adolescent sisters Maggie and Katy Fox claimed to have heard a ghostly knocking at their home in New York state – and to have made contact with the spirit, launching the

spiritualist movement that swept the US and beyond in the 1850s. The Foxes later confessed that they had faked the rapping, but by that time there was no stopping the craze.



VINEGAR DIET

Celebrity dieting is not a new craze. It was rife in Georgian Britain, too. While studying at Cambridge, Byron had lived on virtually starvation rations: potatoes soaked in vinegar, or biscuits and soda water. As he dropped nearly five stone in as many years, countless impressionable youths tried to replicate this diet. The wannabe waifs that followed him ate only vinegar and rice to shed the pounds.



SLIM GEORGE

Perhaps the original celebrity diet icon, thousands copied Byron's weight-loss technique



ORNAMENTAL HERMITS

In the 18th century, the latest must-have accessory for wealthy landowners was a hermitage – complete with ornamental hermit! Often employed for seven years, hermits lived an ascetic life (they were not permitted to cut their hair) but were paid up to £700 – enough to last a lifetime.



WANTED: HERMIT
£700 for seven years' solitude

WALK THIS WAY

In the 1800s, pedestrianism became a spectator sport, and the most successful 'peds' were superstars. The Mo Farah of his time was Edward Payson

Weston, who walked 3,100 miles from California to New York in 77 days. 500,000 fans turned out to watch him cross the finish line.

JOIN THE DEBATE

What other weird and wonderful fads swept the world in the past?



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GO WEST

Hitching, bussing and driving his way across the continent, for Kerouac, the road is freedom

KEROUAC & CASSADY: FREEWHEELIN' THROUGH THE STATES

Pat Kinsella follows the novelist and his Beat Gen buddies, tracing the routes that inspired Kerouac's seminal work, *On the Road*, heralded as a bible for generations of road trippers

ALAMY X2, BRIDGEMAN ART LIBRARY X1

“Behind us lay the
whole of America and
everything Dean
and I had previously
known about life”

Jack Kerouac, *On the Road*

AN INSPIRATION
Kerouac attracted many famous
fans. This first edition of *On the*
Road belonged to Marilyn Monroe

a novel
by Jack Kerouac



ON THE ROAD



GREAT ADVENTURES ON THE ROAD

Bouncing back and forth across the United States, Jack Kerouac's *On the Road* is a novel that chronicles a series of real-life road trips he took between 1947 and 1950. The two principle characters, Sal Paradise and Dean Moriarty – who represent the author and his footloose friend Neal Cassady, respectively – explored the continent in pursuit of parties, girls, highs, enlightenment and expression.

In the late 1940s, Kerouac and Cassady hit the road together several times, always heading west from New York and typically going via Denver to San Francisco, but also taking in Mexico City and New Orleans. They travelled overland by bus and car, negotiating a hedonistic landscape populated by era-defining characters, such as Allen Ginsberg and William S Burroughs, and experimenting with as many experiences and substances as they could.

The narrative, controversial to the point of being unpublishable when it was written in April 1951, came to define a group of young people, already labelled by Kerouac as the Beat Generation – a moniker that has been interpreted in both positive and negative ways. Sometimes compared to the Lost Generation of the 1920s – another post-war epoch of uncertainty – even the movement's de facto leaders seemed unable to agree on whether they were beaten down by the society they found themselves in, or upbeat in their quest for expression.

TURBULENT TIMES

They lived in an America that was redefining its role in the new world order, and its relationship with its own citizens. Memories of World War II were still vivid, the USSR had rapidly morphed from powerful ally into terrifying enemy, and sides were being drawn in the developing Cold War. Waves of paranoia and persecution washed across the nation as Senator Joseph McCarthy whipped up a witch hunt, urging people to out the Communists in their communities.

Culturally, the permissiveness of the sixties was still far off, but the seeds that would eventually sprout into sexual, artistic and social freedom were being spread by an influential few, who railed against censorship and repression. Free-form bebop jazz was tickling the ears and moving the feet of those open-minded enough to embrace it, and stylistic conventions in art and literature were being stretched and, in some instances, snapped.

The enigmatic Kerouac personified the contradictions of the community that appointed him an idol. *On the Road* is lauded to this day as a libertarian bible, yet its author was brought up a strict Catholic, who habitually drew crucifixes alongside his diary entries, and who praised McCarthy's hunt for 'reds under the beds'.

A complex character, Cassady's childhood contrasted with Kerouac's. He was raised by an alcoholic father in Denver and grew up on skid

THE MAIN PLAYERS



JACK KEROUAC

(Salvatore Paradise)
Born in Massachusetts in 1922, to Catholic French-Canadian parents. He did not learn English until he was six. Died in 1969.



NEAL CASSADY

(Dean Moriarty)
A major influence on Kerouac with his free-flowing, letter-writing style and lust for life. Died aged 41 in Mexico.



ALLEN GINSBERG

(Carlo Marx)
Poet, leading figure of the Beat Generation and Communist (hence the pseudonym Kerouac gave him). His best-known work was *Howl*.

WILLIAM S BURROUGHS

(Old Bull Lee)
One of the most influential and experimental writers of the 20th century, and a heroin addict.

CAROLYN CASSADY

(Camille)
Neal Cassady's second wife. Appears often in *On the Road* and had a brief affair with Kerouac.

GABRIELLE KEROUAC

(Sal's Aunt)
Jack Kerouac's mother. She appears as a rare figure of stability in the book.

ON TRACK

RIGHT: Organised chaos – Kerouac marked his notepads with years, letters, numbers and places
FAR RIGHT: Ever behind the wheel, Neal Cassady cruises the streets



PIT STOPS

ABOVE: The Beats take a break for breakfast, coffee and a smoke. Kerouac sits against the wall, on the left
RIGHT: The author and his muse – Kerouac (right) and Cassady

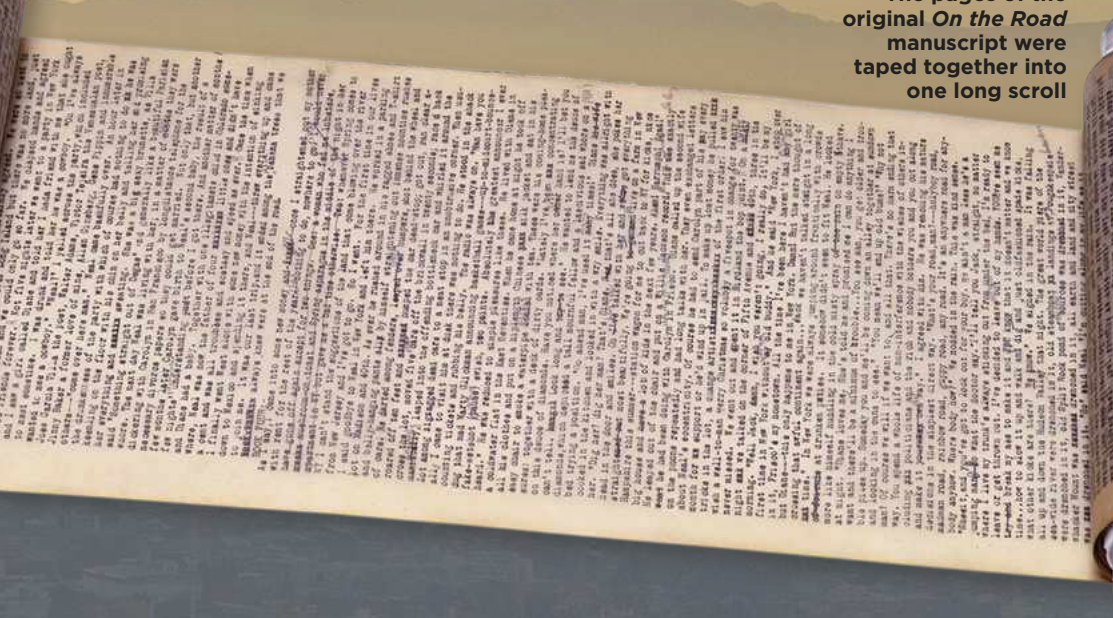




“The road must eventually lead to the whole world”

Jack Kerouac, *On the Road*

WRITE STUFF
The pages of the original *On the Road* manuscript were taped together into one long scroll



row. Despite his background as a street hustler, sometime thief and occasional jailbird, he had a fierce intellect and a devil-may-care attitude that endeared him to several leading lights of the Beat movement, including Allen Ginsberg, who was infatuated with him.

SPRINT FINISH

According to literary legend, the birth of *On the Road* was an act of spontaneous composition – a flood, rather than a stream of consciousness, which saw Jack Kerouac type almost continuously for 20 days, fuelled by cups of coffee and bowls of soup. The manuscript was written in the same style as Dean Moriarty drove cars: at breakneck speed, with no thought for stop signs. The story was inked entirely on a continuous scroll, made from multiple 3-metre-

long reels of paper, taped together so the author was never forced to take his finger off the trigger and reload his weapon. Punctuation marks were rare and paragraphs didn't exist – he saw no need for brakes or breaks.

Truman Capote accused Kerouac of typing rather than writing, but others compared his performance on his Hermes 3000 to the skills of the jazz musicians who feature loud in the story he belted out.

Having produced his seminal work in under three weeks, however, Kerouac failed to get it published for six years. And when Viking Press finally plucked up the cojones to print the tale – which featured



GREAT ADVENTURES ON THE ROAD

promiscuity, homosexuality, heavy drinking and drug use – it was a watered-down version, with the chronology tweaked to give it a more traditionally linear feel, and the names of the characters changed to avoid potential litigation.

While his own creative output was limited, Cassady was the catalyst for much of the action in *On the Road*, and it was his influence that led Kerouac to abandon the traditional writing style he'd used in his first book, *The Town and the City*, in favour of a more freestyle approach – a literary version of the lawless jazz music that was shocking the nation.

Although he often set out on his travels alone, Kerouac's sojourns were unfailingly hijacked by Cassady, whose irrepressible effervescence put him in the driving seat each time, metaphorically and literally.

THE ADVENTURE BEGINS

In 1947, with his head bunged up with writer's block and \$50 in his pocket, Kerouac set off from New York on the first of the journeys that would result in the raw material for *On the Road*. His initial attempt to hitchhike to Chicago failed, as he was driven in every direction except towards the Windy City and, conceding defeat, he blew half his money on a bus ticket.

Outside Joliet, Illinois' state penitentiary, he began hitching again and hopped various rides to Denver, Cassady's hometown, where the two of them partied hard with an assembled cast of characters, including Ginsberg.

Next, bidding his Beat buddies farewell, Kerouac continued by bus to San Francisco and then Los Angeles, hooking up with a Mexican girl en route, before eventually making his way back east via Sabinal and Bakersfield (where he worked picking cotton for a while) in 1948.

In January 1949, Kerouac hit the road again, this time driving to San Francisco with Cassady and two others. They went via New Orleans, where they stayed in Algiers with 'Old Bull Lee' – a pseudonym for the much-celebrated author and junkie, William S Burroughs.

In 1950, Kerouac bussed his way through Washington DC, Cincinnati and St Louis, before meeting up with Frank Jeffries (Stan Shephard) in Denver, where they hatched a plan to visit Mexico City. Cassady joined them in a beaten-up 1937 Ford Sedan, and the trio drove through Texas and crossed the border at Laredo – whooping with excitement as they entered Mexico.

"Behind us lay the whole of America and everything Dean and I had previously known about life, and life on the road," narrates Kerouac's Sal in the book. "We had finally found the magic land at the end of the road, and never dreamed of the extent of the magic."

ALL GOOD THINGS

The end of the road really was nigh by this stage, however, and when Kerouac fell ill with dysentery, Cassady flitted back to the States, leaving his friend behind. This was the last

THE JOURNEY IN NUMBERS

100,000

The number of copies of *On the Road* that still sell per year.

17,527

The total number of miles travelled throughout *On the Road*.

6,500

The number of words Kerouac typed a day to write the first draft of *On the Road*.

91

The amount in dollars that Kerouac had to his name when he died at the age of 47.

36.5

The length, in metres, of the *On the Road* scrolls.

10

The number of days Kerouac spent in the US Navy. He was discharged on psychiatric grounds.

time Cassady and Kerouac travelled together, but both continued to lead itinerant lives full of substance abuse and moments of creative brilliance until their early deaths.

Although it's a snapshot of a long-gone moment in American history, the book's defiantly individualistic ethos continues to inspire independent travellers to hit the road, and the influence it had on a generation of artists was huge. It helped shape the creative philosophy, stylistic approach and methodology of a whole host of writers, musicians, poets and actors, including Bob Dylan, Peter Fonda, Jim Morrison and Hunter S Thompson. 📍

GET HOOKED

TRAVEL

Re-create the 1949 road trip with a drive from New York to San Francisco via New Orleans, or the 1950 cross-border epic with a ride down to Mexico City. To drive the entire route, follow the free 55-page booklet compiled by German student Gregor Weichbrodt, who typed every location mentioned into Google directions and collated them (www.ggor.de).

FILM

Many considered *On the Road* to be unfilmable, but in 2012 Francis Ford Coppola released his adaptation. Critical reaction was mixed – the one surviving main character, Carolyn Cassady (who was married to Cassady and had an affair with Kerouac) described both leads as "wimps".

BOOKS

Penguin has released an excellent 'amplified' edition of *On the Road* for iPads, which has maps, biographies and many other extras.

Carolyn Cassady's autobiography, *Off the Road: Twenty Years with Cassady, Kerouac and Ginsberg*, offers a peek behind the scenes of the Beat Generation.



AROUND AND ABOUT

ABOVE: Kerouac in 1950, shortly before he pens his iconic novel
RIGHT: Greyhound buses roamed the highways of America
FAR RIGHT: Kerouac's grave in Edson Cemetery, Massachusetts

ON THE ROAD

New York was the epicentre for all of Kerouac's exploits, the point where his wanderings began and ended, and the place where he hung out with Allen Ginsberg and fellow members of the Beat Generation. Denver was Cassady's hometown, and it featured centrally in every road trip. San Francisco, where many key figures of the Beat Generation and counterculture were migrating, was their ultimate destination on all but their last trip, when they finally ventured beyond the United States into Mexico.

3 MARIN CITY,

San Francisco, California

Kerouac stayed here and in nearby Mill Valley when he first arrived in San Francisco. In the book he combined the names to form Mill City and identified it as the home of his old school friend Henri Cru (Remi Boncoeur).

8 MEXICO CITY,

Mexico

The furthest-flung point that the pair reach on their travels and the zenith of their odyssey. "We'd made it, a total of 1,900 miles from the afternoon yards of Denver to these vast and Biblical areas of the world, and now we were about to reach the end of the road."



2 COLFAX AVENUE,
Downtown Denver, Colorado
Kerouac and Cassidy frequented bars on this strip. Places that still exist, such as Charlie Brown's Bar & Grill and the Irish Snug, claim them as former customers.

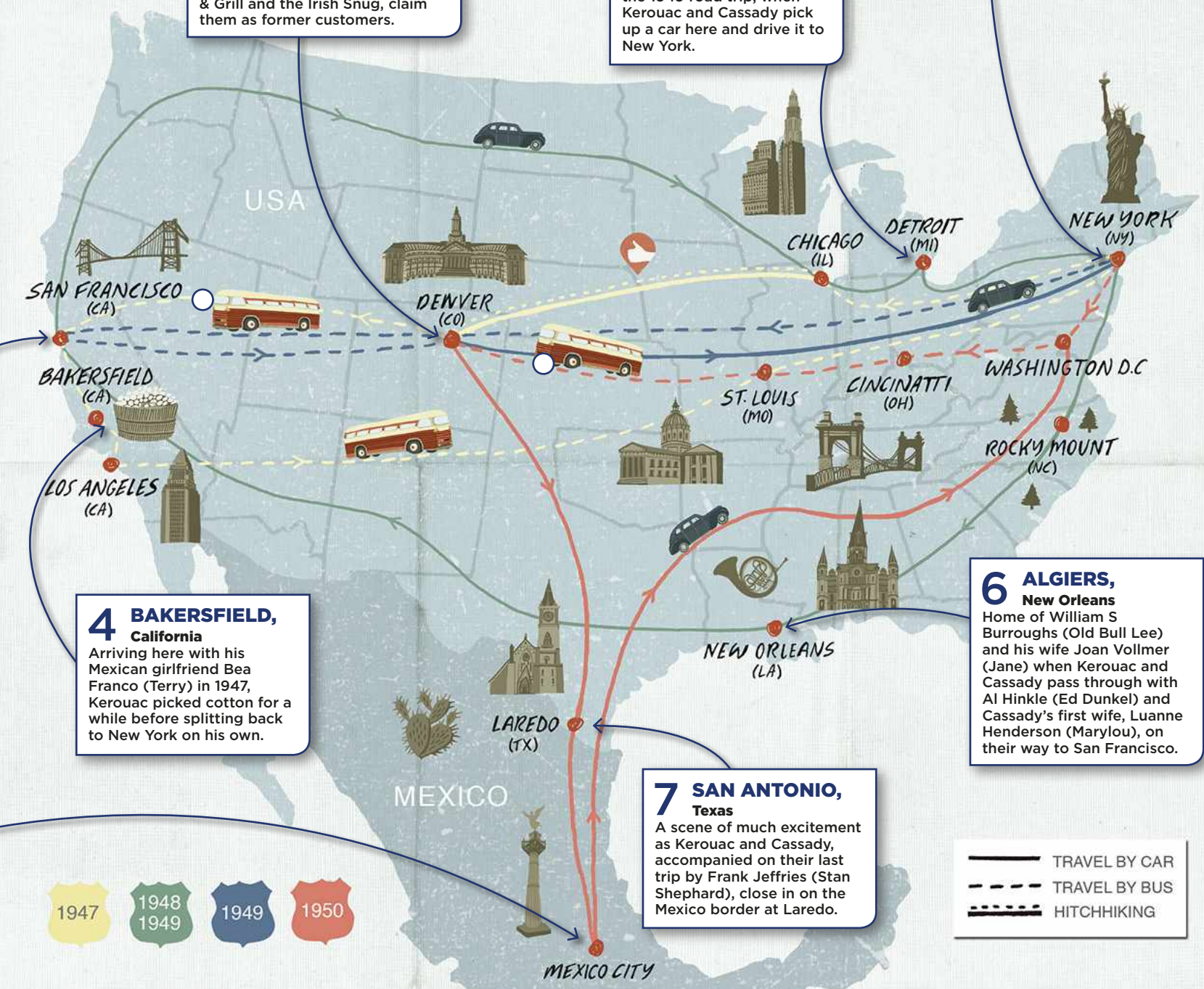
5 SKID ROW,
Detroit, Michigan
Haunt of Herbert Huncke (Elmer Hassel), a dropout Beat Generation poet and train-jumping itinerant who features several times in *On the Road*. It's a key point on the 1949 road trip, when Kerouac and Cassidy pick up a car here and drive it to New York.

1 133-01 CROSSBAY BOULEVARD,
Ozone Park, Queens, New York City
Sal's Aunt's house in the published manuscript, this was Kerouac's address when he lived with his mother from 1943-1948.

4 BAKERSFIELD,
California
Arriving here with his Mexican girlfriend Bea Franco (Terry) in 1947, Kerouac picked cotton for a while before splitting back to New York on his own.

6 ALGIERS,
New Orleans
Home of William S. Burroughs (Old Bull Lee) and his wife Joan Vollmer (Jane) when Kerouac and Cassidy pass through with Al Hinkle (Ed Dunkel) and Cassidy's first wife, Luanne Henderson (Marylou), on their way to San Francisco.

7 SAN ANTONIO,
Texas
A scene of much excitement as Kerouac and Cassidy, accompanied on their last trip by Frank Jeffries (Stan Shephard), close in on the Mexico border at Laredo.



The King's Speech

Mark Glancy explores the story behind the hit film, and reveals how the King who struggled to speak finally found his voice...



“The nation believes that when I speak, I speak for them. But I can’t speak.”

LEFT: With coaching from Logue, King George VI delivers a slow, but stutter-free radio address on the day Britain declares war
MAIN: George VI, as played by Colin Firth, prepares for the same broadcast. Logue stands on the other side of the microphone, talking the King through his speech

Films about the British monarchy have long centred on the most charismatic rulers and legendary moments of crisis or triumph during their reign. Henry VIII and Elizabeth I figure prominently in this tradition, and each has been portrayed by a string of fine actors. *The King's Speech*, by contrast, is remarkable for bringing to the screen one of Britain's least imposing monarchs, King George VI, and for dramatising the hitherto little-known problem of his stammer. It is even more remarkable for making this shy, awkward figure a sympathetic and compelling character, and for

THE FACTS

Director:

Tom Hooper

Cast:

Colin Firth
Helena Bonham
Carter, Geoffrey
Rush, Guy Pearce,
Michael Gambon,
Claire Bloom,
Timothy Spall

What do you think of *The King's Speech*? Get in touch and let us know!

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illuminating the transformation of the monarchy in the age of mass media.

George VI was born in 1895 as Prince Albert, the second son of the future King George V and Queen Mary. He was known within the Royal family by the nickname 'Bertie', but everything else about his upbringing was stiff with the strict, unsentimental attitudes towards child rearing that prevailed in the Victorian era. He was left-handed but made to write with his right hand. He had 'knock knees' and was forced to wear uncomfortable metal braces on his legs. His stammer was regarded as an affliction that he should somehow rise above. "Get it out!", King George V would demand when he heard his son

struggling to speak. That, of course, only made the condition worse.

SEALED LIPS

In childhood, the stammer was a private issue. It made the young Prince seem quiet, but had no wider significance. He was the second-in-line to the throne after his elder brother, the future Edward VIII. It was only with the rise of radio in the twenties that his stammer became public knowledge, and thus a problem.

By 1925, Albert had become the Duke of York, and he was required to give the closing speech at the British Empire Exhibition. This was delivered not only to the crowds gathered in the massive new Wembley Stadium,

CURSING KING

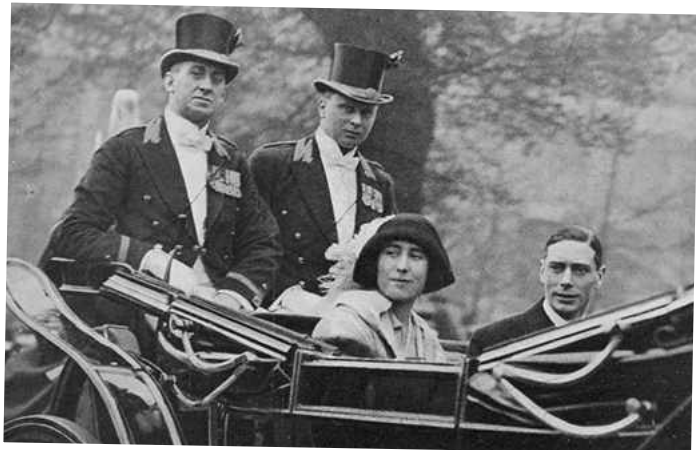
Modern audiences may be amused to see Logue encouraging George VI to **loosen up by swearing** in the film, but this would have been considered outrageously vulgar at the time.

CHARACTER ACT

Colin Firth brilliantly conveys George VI's **anxiety and frustration**, but he is a far more forceful and assertive figure than the shy, diminutive King.

POLITICS OF WAR

The film suggests that in the thirties, the Royals were attuned to the **dangers posed by dictators**, but in fact they were strong supporters of appeasement until the outbreak of war.



“I intend to be a very great Queen... to a very great King”

ABOVE: The future King George VI and Queen Elizabeth leave for their honeymoon, in 1923
RIGHT: In the movie, as in real life, Elizabeth is a strong character and a great support to George VI



FROSTY FRIENDSHIP

The film presents Churchill as a **friend and confidante** of the Duke and Duchess of York, but in fact **they were at odds** with each other in the thirties. Their relationship only thawed later on, years into World War II.

“War with Germany will come. And we will need a King who we can all stand behind”

RIGHT: Winston Churchill celebrates victory with the monarchs on 8 May 1945, outside Buckingham Palace
MAIN: Cigar in hand, Timothy Spall epitomises Churchill



but also to millions of radio listeners around the world. A huge audience heard his slow and faltering speech, but few could imagine the humiliation it brought. One listener was convinced he could help. Lionel Logue, an Australian speech therapist, was at Wembley with his family. “He is too old for me to manage a complete cure,” he told his son, “but I could very nearly do it.”

Albert had seen speech therapists before, but to no avail. Logue focussed on relaxing his patient to reduce the anxiety that accompanied his stammer. He assigned daily exercises – tongue-twisters and breathing techniques – and urged

the Duke to think of the stammer not as an irreparable flaw, but as a condition that could be overcome. His methods met with almost instant success. Their first session was in October 1926, and on the Royals’ tour of Australia and New Zealand that began in early 1927, the Duke gave many well-received speeches. He was not cured, but his delivery and anxiety were much improved.

YEAR OF THREE KINGS


In 1936, the Duke’s life changed forever. On 20 January 1936, George V died and Edward VIII became King. Edward’s modern

LOGUE’S HONOUR

The King’s speech therapist became **Lionel Logue CVO, in 1944, for his distinguished personal service to George VI**

outlook and charisma made him popular, but he was also reckless, and had little regard for the propriety that was key to his role. He fell in love with a twice-married American divorcée, Mrs Wallis Simpson, and insisted that he should marry her. What’s more, he hoped she could take the title of Queen, or at the very least, Her Royal Highness.

Within a year of his accession, this resulted in a full-scale constitutional crisis. Winston Churchill, a backbench MP in 1936, lobbied on behalf of Edward and Mrs Simpson, and in the process alienated the Duke and Duchess of York, who wanted the King to fulfil his duties and end this unsuitable relationship. Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin was also against the marriage and, along with a variety of officials and authorities, he forced the King to choose between



“*The King’s Speech* makes the shy, awkward monarch a compelling character”

“I have a right to be heard. I have a voice!”

Before he becomes King or meets Logue, Firth’s Duke of York hesitates during his first, humiliating, radio-broadcast speech

LAI D ON THICK

The Duke’s stammer during the pivotal speech he gave at Wembley was **quite exaggerated** in the movie. Although **slow and full of pauses**, the actual address was not as cluttered with stutters as Firth’s rendition.


the throne and love. Edward VIII abdicated on 11 December 1936. It was a shock to the country and a bitter blow to the Duke of York, who wept on his mother’s shoulder for an hour when he learned he would be King.

From the moment he was crowned, George VI faced a lifetime of public engagements and speeches. Logue remained his coach and comforter. He helped him to prepare his voice and also amended and annotated speeches to make them easier to deliver.

PLOT POINT

The King’s Speech climaxes with a speech delivered on the day war with Germany was declared, 3 September 1939. It suggests that this was a pivotal event, attended by high-ranking officials

including Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and Churchill, and that it ended with the King’s appearance on the balcony of Buckingham Palace. Actually, the speech was neither so pivotal nor so well-attended, but the scene represents the new duties the King faced, and his ability to rise to the occasion during this national crisis.

During WWII, the rhetoric and allure of national leaders – namely Churchill and Hitler – played an unprecedented role. In truth, George VI never approached their forceful delivery, but Logue’s coaching enabled the King to speak to his subjects with gravitas and authority. This is the essence of the film, which, through beautiful direction and powerful acting, sheds light on one of Britain’s lesser-known but most-dutiful monarchs. 

Ones to watch: films about the Royals

The Queen

(Directed by Stephen Frears, 2006) The death of Princess Diana precipitates a crisis for the private and public lives of the Royal family.

Elizabeth

(Directed by Shekhar Kapur, 1998) Elizabeth I establishes her authority and identity in the early years of her reign.

The Private Life of Henry VIII

(Directed by Alexander Korda, 1933) A semi-



Cate Blanchett brings the young monarch to life in *Elizabeth*

comical, bawdy dramatisation of King Henry VIII’s marriages and his struggle to produce an heir.



Stalingrad: the worst battle ever fought?

Julian Humphrys unfolds the dramatic events that made the **Battle of Stalingrad** the most miserable and bloody battle of World War II – and possibly in the history of warfare

The battle for Stalingrad was to be very different to the fast-moving blitzkrieg that had won the Germans

such stunning victories in the preceding years. It was a bitter battle of attrition in which single buildings became major military objectives and progress was measured in tens of yards not hundreds of miles.

Massive air raids had already reduced much of the city to rubble and killed tens of thousands of its inhabitants as German forces approached in August.

In mid-September, General Friedrich Paulus, Commander of the German Sixth Army, launched

the first major assault. Facing him was the Soviet 62nd army under General Vasily Chuikov. Chuikov ordered his troops to take up positions as close as possible to the enemy. That way, German aircraft and artillery would be unable to fire without hitting their own men.

Over the next two months, in brutal street fighting where factories became citadels and enemies often occupied different parts of the same building, Paulus slowly pushed Chuikov's men back into a narrow bridgehead west of the Volga.

The symbolic importance of capturing a city named after the Soviet leader had long come to outweigh any strategic considerations on the part of Hitler. Meanwhile, the Soviet high

KEY FACTS

Date: August 1942 to 2 February 1943

Location: Stalingrad (now Volgograd), southern Russia

Terrain: Industrial and residential city on the River Volga surrounded by open steppe countryside

Forces: (August) Germans 270,000 men, 3,000 guns, 500 tanks, 600 aircraft; Soviets 187,000 men, 2,200 guns, 400 tanks, 300 aircraft (November) Germans 1,011,000 men, 10,250 guns, 675 tanks, 730 aircraft; Soviets 1,100,000 men, 15,500 guns, 1,460 tanks, 1,115 aircraft

Outcome: Decisive Soviet victory and surrender of German Sixth Army



DECEMBER 1942
Intense house-to-house
fighting saw the Battle of
Stalingrad drag on for many
months, with neither side
permitted to pull back

NO SURRENDER

Stalin's order number 227
forbade unauthorised retreats,
and threatened **dire**
consequences to soldiers who
made them or commanders
who permitted them.



BATTLEFIELD STALINGRAD, 1942

command was building up reserves for a massive counter-attack against Paulus's weak flanks.

On 19 November, the Soviets launched a major attack north of Stalingrad and, the following day, attacked in the south. The Romanian forces guarding Paulus's flanks were brushed aside and, when the two Soviet spearheads linked up near Kalach, 40 miles west of Stalingrad, the Sixth Army was surrounded.

Despite this, Hitler ordered Paulus not to try to break out of Stalingrad. Instead, attempts were to be made to supply the army by air and to break the encirclement from outside. Neither succeeded. The Luftwaffe was unable to provide anything like the volume of supplies needed to keep Paulus's troops going and in mid-December, Field Marshall Erich von Manstein failed in an attempt to break through to Stalingrad with three armoured divisions.

Inadequately equipped for the brutal Russian winter, and drastically short of ammunition and food, the frost-bitten German troops were forced back into the ruined city. Their last airfield fell on 23 January. Three days later, the Sixth Army was split in two.

SUICIDE ORDER

Paulus was by now a mental and physical wreck. On 30 January, he received the news that Hitler had appointed him field marshal. This was a clear hint that Paulus should commit suicide, as no German field marshal had ever surrendered.

However, Paulus refused to oblige. Instead, he surrendered the following day. The northern pocket fought on until 2 February, when it too yielded. Soviet records suggest that groups of German soldiers hid in cellars and sewers and continued to resist for the next month.

A few senior officers, including Paulus, were taken to Moscow and used for propaganda purposes. Weakened by malnutrition and ravaged by typhus, the 91,000 German prisoners taken were in no state to survive the rigours of imprisonment. Nearly half died before the spring. Of the rest, only about 5,000 ever returned home, many after more than a decade in the hands of the Soviets. 📍

522

German aircraft lost in the vain attempt to supply Paulus's surrounded army by air

TRAVELLING ARSENAL

The German invasion force was bigger than anything seen before. Some **500,000 anti-tank rounds, 750,000 artillery rounds and 25,000,000 small arms rounds** were fired by the Sixth Army at Stalingrad in September 1942 alone.



1941: INVASION FORCE

Millions of German troops pour into the USSR in the largest invasion in history

OPERATION BARBAROSSA

Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union saw an incomprehensible volume of losses on both sides, and would lead to ultimate defeat in the war in Europe

On 22 June 1941, Hitler launched Operation Barbarossa, the invasion of the Soviet Union. Despite warnings of an impending German attack, the Russians were taken by surprise and, weakened by Stalin's pre-war purges of its officers, the Red Army was in no condition to take on the Wehrmacht.

The Germans won a series of resounding victories, encircling and capturing more than three million Russian soldiers (two million of whom died of starvation, disease and

exposure by February 1942), and advancing hundreds of miles. By late November, the Germans were within sight of Moscow but, short of fuel and ill-prepared for the rigours of a Russian winter, they were pushed back by a major Soviet counterattack.

In 1942, the Germans realised that they lacked the resources for a general attack on all fronts. Instead, they opted for a major offensive in the south, with the objective of capturing the vital oil fields of the Caucasus. The original plan was to secure the River Volga and capture, or at

least neutralise, the industrial city of Stalingrad before driving south into the Caucasus. The offensive began in late June and the Red Army retreated to avoid the kind of encirclements they had suffered in 1941.

Encouraged by this, Hitler revised the plan in late July. Army Group A was now to occupy the Caucasus while Army Group B, led by General Paulus's Sixth Army, was to take Stalingrad. However, the result of Hitler's directive was that neither had the resources to complete their tasks fully.

THE MAIN PLAYERS

GERMANS

ADOLF HITLER

Austrian-born Chancellor of Germany. His inflated belief in his own strategic abilities frequently led him to overrule his generals and intervene in their plans, often with disastrous consequences.

FIELD-MARSHAL ERICH VON MANSTEIN

Played a major role in the conquests of Poland, France and the Crimea. Tasked with breaking through to relieve the surrounded Sixth Army at Stalingrad.



GENERAL FRIEDRICH PAULUS

Commander of the German Sixth Army, given the responsibility of capturing Stalingrad. Talented, but promoted beyond his abilities. Survived the battle.



SOVIETS

JOSEPH STALIN

Supreme ruler of the Soviet Union for over a quarter of a century. Determined that the city bearing his name should not fall into the hands of Nazi Germany.

MARSHAL GEORGY ZHUKOV

One of World War II's greatest generals. Led the defence of Moscow in 1941, in charge of strategic operations during the Battle of Stalingrad and oversaw the capture of Berlin in 1945.



GENERAL VASILI CHUIKOV

Commander of the Soviet 62nd Army, which was tasked with the defence of the city of Stalingrad, whatever the cost.



WHY THEY FOUGHT

Hitler's attack on the Soviet Union in the summer of 1941 was primarily motivated by a clash of ideologies, the desire for 'Lebensraum' (living space), and the wish to capture and exploit the agricultural and industrial resources of Eastern Europe. The ensuing conflict was a key factor in the eventual Allied victory in World

War II. For every German division in the West on D-Day, three were serving on the Eastern Front. By the time the Red Army entered Berlin in April 1945, the Soviet Union had suffered an estimated 20 million military and civilian deaths in 'the Great Patriotic War' against Nazi Germany.



BERLIN 1945
Red Army soldiers raise the Soviet flag over the Reichstag in Berlin

THE TWO ARMIES

The Germans and the Soviets had very different motivations to fight, which proved decisive

The German Sixth Army of August 1942 was well-trained, well-equipped and confident of victory. However, the same could not be said of some of its allies – Italian, Romanian, Hungarian Croatian and Slovakian – that the Germans had to rely on to make up the numbers on the Eastern Front.

Conversely, their Red Army opponents were to fight with an almost suicidal desperation. It has been said that this was because they would have been shot by their own side had they failed to do so, but it seems that the desire to rid their country of a hated invader was a much greater motivation.

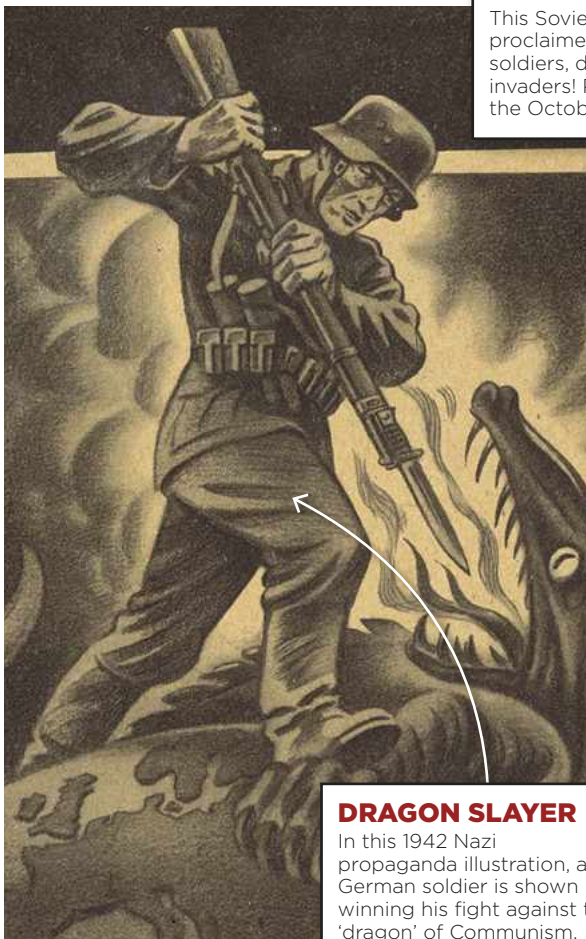
PROTECT THE REVOLUTION

This Soviet propaganda poster proclaimed: "Red Army soldiers, destroy German invaders! Protect the gains of the October Revolution!"



DRAGON SLAYER

In this 1942 Nazi propaganda illustration, a German soldier is shown winning his fight against the 'dragon' of Communism.





WEAPONRY AND EQUIPMENT

Tanks were a potent weapon in the open steppe around Stalingrad, but they were much less effective in built-up areas where visibility was restricted and streets blocked by the rubble of destroyed buildings. Artillery rained down destruction and snipers achieved spectacular 'kills', but short-range weapons like grenades and submachine guns were equally important in the bitter house-to-house fighting that characterised the battle for Stalingrad.

57,000

T34 tanks produced by the Soviets during the war

GERMAN MP40 MACHINE PISTOL

Its high rate of fire made it an ideal weapon in close-quarter fighting, although it was normally only issued to platoon and squad leaders.



76.2mm gun. Could fire armour-piercing shot against enemy tanks or high-explosive shells against infantry and other unarmoured targets

MOSIN-NAGANT 91/30 RIFLE

The Soviet army's Standard issue bolt-action rifle. Fitted with a scope, it was also used by snipers like Vasily Zaytsev, whose exploits inspired the 2001 movie *Enemy at the Gates*.



STEEL COMBAT HELMET (SOVIET)

Primarily designed to offer protection against small shell fragments and falling debris. Manufactured in large numbers at the Red October and tractor factories in Stalingrad.



T34/76 TANK

Its simple design made it easy to manufacture and repair. It was widely regarded as the world's best tank when the Soviet Union entered World War II, although its armour and armament were surpassed by later tanks. The T34 played a crucial role in the Soviet encircling counterattacks of November.



Hull machine gun to engage enemy infantry

Sloped armour to deflect enemy shot

Wide tracks distributed the tank's weight and helped it travel over uneven, boggy or snow-covered ground

GERMAN MODEL 24 GRENADE

Blast grenade used for clearing buildings or bunkers. Sometimes fitted with a steel sleeve that would fragment on detonation, which was more effective against soldiers in the open. The stick helped the user to throw it further and lessened the chances of it rolling back to him if thrown uphill.



FIERCE DEFENCE

General Chuikov later said the Germans lost more men attacking Pavlov's House than taking Paris

PAVLOV'S HOUSE

One building in particular came to symbolise the bitter street fighting in Stalingrad. Dubbed 'Pavlov's House' after the Russian sergeant who played a leading role in its 58-day defence, it was in fact a four storey building near to the river in central Stalingrad. Pavlov and his comrades turned the building into a fortress, surrounding it with barbed wire and knocking

loopholes in the walls from which they mowed down the attacking German infantry. They took up positions on the top floor and used an anti-tank rifle to penetrate the thinner top armour of the tanks, whose guns couldn't aim high enough to shoot back. The shattered building was later rebuilt with a monument made from bricks from its ruins attached to it.

OPERATION BLAU

- Frontline 28 Jun **A** Army Group A
 - - - Frontline 18 Nov **B** Army Group B



RUINS

The initial devastating German aerial bombardment left 90% of the city in ruins.

AVIATION

The Germans used aircraft to support their attacks. Attempts to use aviation to supply the troops trapped in Stalingrad failed.

CIVILIANS

The Soviet leader, Joseph Stalin, discouraged civilians from leaving the city. This way, his soldiers would fight more bravely to defend them.

TANKS AND ARMoured VEHICLES

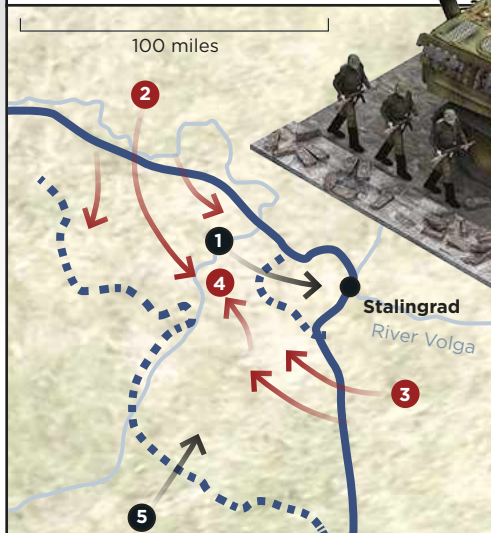
A cornerstone of the German forces, their use in street combat was extremely limited.

SNIPERS

They played a key part in the battle. The struggle would involve outstanding individuals and duels.

SOVIET COUNTER-OFFENSIVE

- Frontline 19 Nov
 - - - Frontline 30 Nov
- 1 German drive on Stalingrad
 - 2 Soviet attacks 19 Nov
 - 3 Soviet attacks 20 Nov
 - 4 Encirclement completed 23 Nov
 - 5 Von Manstein's failed relief attempt



GERMAN SOLDIERS

Around 290,000 fought inside the city. There were 200,000 casualties and 90,000 prisoners taken, most of whom would die in Soviet prisoner-of-war camps.

SOVIET SOLDIERS

They hid in the ruins of buildings and forced the Germans to participate in house-to-house combat.

THE ROAD TO BERLIN

While victory at Stalingrad was key to ultimate victory, it would take almost two years of heavy fighting before Stalin's forces reached the German capital

Looking to capitalise on the victory at Stalingrad, the Red Army mounted a series of southern offensives. But they hadn't taken into account either the Wehrmacht's powers of recovery or von Manstein's skills as a general. Furthermore, their own forces were exhausted and, as they moved westwards, were over-extending their own lines of supply. Von Manstein pulled back

from Kharkov before counter-attacking on 19 February. By mid-March, he had retaken Kharkov, inflicted heavy losses and stabilised the German position, even if they lost all the ground gained in 1942. They still had one great offensive left in them. In July, they launched a pincer attack on the large Soviet salient (bulge in the front line) at Kursk. However, the Soviets were

ready for them. The attack was held and, after what has been called the greatest tank battle in history, the Germans were again forced onto the defensive after suffering heavy losses. The Russians lost many more but were better able to make good their losses. Even though it would take nearly two years before the Red Army reached Berlin, German defeat was now inevitable.

GET HOOKED!

Find out more about the battle and those involved

BOOK

Stalingrad by Antony Beevor (1998) tells the complete story of the battle. Beginning with the German invasion of the USSR, this best seller is an accessible account of the entire operation.

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OUR EXPERTS

EMILY BRAND

Writer, historian and genealogist. Emily's most recent book is *Mr Darcy's Guide to Courtship* (Old House Books, 2013)



JULIAN HUMPHRYS

Development Officer for The Battlefields Trust and author of *Clash of Arms: Twelve English Battles* (English Heritage, 2006)



GREG JENNER

Historical Consultant for BBC's *Horrible Histories*. His first book, *A Million Years in a Day*, will be published in 2015



SEAN LANG

Senior Lecturer at Anglia Ruskin University and author of *Nazi Foreign Policy, 1933-39* (Philip Allan Updates, 2009)



RUPERT MATTHEWS

Author and journalist. Rupert's forthcoming book *On the Trail of the Real King Arthur* will be published in September



MILES RUSSELL

Senior Lecturer of Archaeology at Bournemouth Uni and author of *The Piltdown Man Hoax: Case Closed* (The History Press, 2012)



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WHERE IS QUEEN BOUDICCA BURIED?



Boudicca, Queen of the Iceni (who lived in modern-day Norfolk), led her tribe c60 AD in a revolt against the Roman rulers of Britain. Initially successful - destroying the cities of London, Colchester and St Albans - the Iceni were finally defeated in a battle somewhere to the north west of London. Roman sources suggest the slaughter of around 200,000 Britons.

The exact location of the battle is unknown, although Lewis Spence, in his 1937

book *Boadicea - Warrior Queen of the Britons*, suggested, with no real evidence, that the opposing armies had fought on land now occupied by the railway stations of King's Cross and St Pancras.

The Roman historian Dio Cassius, writing over a century after the battle, suggested that, in defeat, Boudicca "fell ill and died", her followers providing her with a lavish burial. In truth, this seems unlikely, given that

reprisals followed in the aftermath of the revolt, and Dio Cassius provides no source for the claim.

This hasn't prevented people searching for a grave, however, and the myth that her last resting place today lies somewhere beneath platforms 9 and 10 of King's Cross, probably thanks to Spence's book, seems to be more popular than ever. The story appears to have inspired the author JK Rowling, who placed the departure point of the Hogwarts Express - which takes Harry Potter and his classmates to their school of witchcraft and wizardry - at King's Cross platform 9^{3/4}. **MR**



LAST STOP
Could the tribal Queen be buried beneath so regal a place as King's Cross station?

Who won the first Victoria Cross of WWI?



Five men were awarded the Victoria Cross for acts on 23 August 1914, the first day that the British faced the Germans at Mons, Belgium. Of these, it is generally reckoned that Lieutenant Maurice Dease of the Royal Fusiliers performed his feat first. A railway bridge over a canal at Nimy was defended by Dease's company.

He was in command of one machine gun in a sandbag emplacement. Shortly after the Germans attacked at dawn, and Dease was wounded. A shell killed or injured the entire gun crew, and

VALIANT HEROES
The Victoria Cross is the highest award for bravery

Dease was wounded a second time. Despite this he continued to fire. Another shell wounded Dease for a third time and destroyed part of the machine gun. Only then did he allow himself to be taken away for treatment. He died of his wounds later that day. **RM**



WHAT WAS THE 'KING'S EVIL'?



People in medieval England and France suffered from scrofula, a disease of the lymph glands, which was called the King's Evil. It was thought to be cured by the touch of a monarch.

Most royals did nothing to dissuade this idea, as it underlined the divine nature of

their rule. The first ceremonial touching goes back to the reign of either Henry III or Edward I. By the 15th century, events were being organised so monarchs could touch hundreds of diseased people. Henry IV of France touched no fewer than 1,500 people. JH



Why does the **flag of Wales** feature a red dragon?



The red dragon of Wales dates back to Roman times. Roman cavalry units carried a standard known as the 'draco', or dragon. This took the form of a metal dragon's head with an open mouth, through which the wind would blow. The body of the dragon was made up of a tube of fabric, rather like a modern wind sock. The banners were used to serve as markers on which the riders formed into different formations, and to give orders by means of vigorous waving. The British militias adopted many

aspects of Roman military gear, and the draco standard was among those taken up with alacrity.

Following the fall of Rome, British princes continued to use Roman-style dracos as battle standards. The last recorded use of the draco by a British army was in about 1250, after which the red dragon of Wales began to be embroidered onto a flag as if it were a heraldic device. The green and white background, incidentally, comes from the family colours of the Tudor Dynasty and were added in 1959. RM



FIRE BREATHER
It might be synonymous with Wales now, but the red dragon has much more distant roots

DID YOU KNOW?

UPPER CRUST

In the 1620s, Jeffery Hudson, a young dwarf, was presented to King Charles I in a spectacular manner – emerging from a large pie. Delighted, Queen Henrietta Maria immediately hired him as her Page.

What happened to **King Harold's children** after he was killed at Hastings in **1066**?



William of Normandy, who became King of England after Harold's death, was not the forgiving sort. In 1066, Harold's two eldest sons, Godwin and Edmund, were in their late teens. They fled to Ireland where they lived as guests of the King of Leinster. In 1069, they came back with a fleet of

HASTINGS, 1066

Harold's days were numbered, but what of his kids?



ships hoping to raise an army and regain the throne. They were defeated in a battle at the River Taw in Devon. They escaped alive, but their fate is unknown.

Harold's 11-year-old daughter, Gunhilda, was being educated at Wilton Abbey in 1066. She finished her education and was married to Alan Rufus, one of William's henchmen. The marriage appears to have been happy and they had at least one child.

Gytha, who was 13, fled to her uncle, King Sweyn of Denmark with her younger brothers Magnus, Harold and Ulf. The

fates of the boys are unknown, but Gytha married Vladimir Monomakh, Prince of the Rus, and so was the ancestress to the later Tsars of Russia. RM

DID YOU KNOW?

MONSTROUS MARTYR

St Drogo (1105-1186) was a French pilgrim who became so deformed by disease that he terrified people. He became a holy recluse, living for 40-odd years alone in a church cell. Today, he's the patron saint of ugly people.



IN A NUTSHELL

WHO WERE THE JACOBITES?

The Jacobite cause saw Irish, Brits and scheming Europeans fight together



Who were they?

The Jacobites were supporters of James II and VII, who had been deposed in 1689. In his name, and in the name of his descendants they led a series of uprisings threatening the government.

Why does James have two numbers after his name?

This story takes place against the backdrop of the unification of Scotland and England. After centuries of separation, James VI of Scotland succeeded Elizabeth I of England in 1603, and from then on England and Scotland shared a monarch. That's why James is called James II (of England) and VII (of Scotland).

The process of Anglo-Scottish unification was completed in 1707 when the countries were officially joined as Great Britain.

How did the movement start?

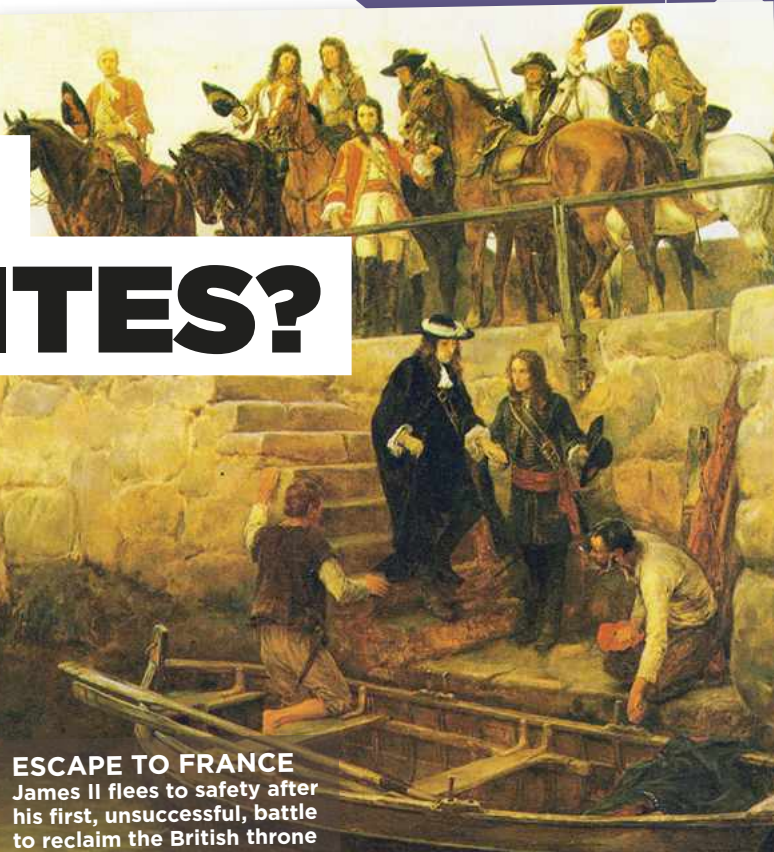
In 1685, James Stuart succeeded his brother Charles II to the thrones of England, Scotland and Ireland (at this point, Wales was considered part of

the English realm). This was a great concern to many, because unlike the largely Protestant population, James was Catholic. Three years later, James's first son was born, opening up the possibility of a Catholic royal dynasty. In response, a group of English Protestants invited Dutch Prince William of Orange to replace James as king of the three countries. William duly invaded and James fled to France. In 1689, William was crowned, to rule jointly with his wife Mary, who happened to be James's daughter.

Why did people join the Jacobite rebellion?

Jacobitism appealed to a wide range of people in the British Isles. It was especially popular in Ireland, where most people were Catholic, and in Scotland, where many resented the 1707 union of Great Britain.

Some people signed up out of a sense of loyalty to a King they believed had been illegitimately ousted from the throne. More broadly, Jacobitism offered an alternative for those who were



ESCAPE TO FRANCE
James II flees to safety after his first, unsuccessful, battle to reclaim the British throne

dissatisfied with the governing elite. Internationally, Catholic powers such as France and Spain sometimes allied with the Jacobites in their own attempts to defeat Britain.

What were the Jacobite risings?

They were Jacobite rebellions, held between 1689 and 1746. In the year William and Mary were crowned, the first insurrection, in Scotland, was swiftly put down. Meanwhile, James himself landed in Ireland, but he was defeated at the Battle of the Boyne in 1690, and fled back to France.

James died in 1701 and so the next significant uprising, which took place in 1715, was in support of his son (also James). It was led by the Earl of Mar, who gathered many supporters in Scotland. However, the Earl was a poor military leader and by the time James joined the revolt, it was already fizzling out.

The last uprising took place in 1745. This time it was James II's grandson Charles Edward Stuart (known as Bonnie Prince Charlie) who took the lead. He

invaded Scotland and gained the support of several Highland clans. As many British soldiers were campaigning overseas, it was a promising moment to rebel.

The uprising was initially a success – Edinburgh was captured and government forces overcome at the Battle of Prestonpans. But then Charles's luck ran out. An invasion of England failed to provoke a Jacobite revolt in the country, and on their return to Scotland, the Jacobites were crushed at Culloden in April 1746. The British then hunted down the surviving rebels, forcing Charles to flee. It was to be the last serious Jacobite attempt to seize power.

What happened next?

After Bonnie Prince Charlie died in 1788, the Stuarts who succeeded him relinquished their claim to the British throne.

Nowadays the Jacobites live on as a cultural memory, particularly in Scotland.



WILLIAM & MARY
Though they took the British throne with minimal bloodshed, holding onto it would be another matter



FALLEN CLANSMEN
A memorial marks the battle site on Culloden Moor

WHAT WAS TRIAL BY ORDEAL?

◎ How do you tell if someone is lying? In Saxon and medieval times they left it to God. Trial by ordeal was a way of working out what His verdict was. The accused would have to plunge a hand into boiling water or walk barefoot over red-hot ploughshares. The wounds were bound up and if, after three days, they had healed, it was a sign of God's favour: not guilty.

Similar thinking lay behind throwing the accused into water, common in witchcraft cases. The water would refuse an evildoer, so if you floated you were guilty; if you sank, the water embraced you because you were godly and therefore innocent – and yes, they did fish you out! SL

HAS THERE EVER BEEN A TRULY DISASTROUS ROYAL WEDDING?

◎ Royal weddings rarely go without a hitch. In 1100, rumours that the bride was a runaway nun put something of a dampener on Henry I's nuptials – so much so that the Archbishop of Canterbury felt moved to deny it in the service. That of Edward IV was conducted in secret, and when the parents of the future George III wed in 1736, there were reports that the nervous bride had vomited on her new mother-in-law's skirts. Even the lavish ceremony of 1981 saw Lady Diana muddling up the groom's name with his father's.

SLIP OF THE TONGUE
A nervous Lady Diana got her royal groom's name wrong, in front of a TV audience of some 750 million people

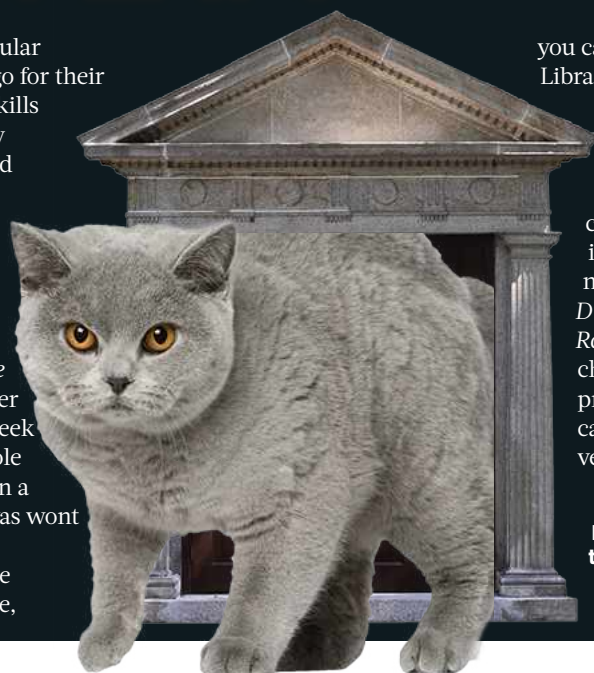
Undeniably the most disastrous ceremony, however, was that of George, Prince of Wales and his cousin Caroline of Brunswick in on 8 April 1795. Both felt deceived by the portraits they had been sent, and George reluctantly reeled into the chapel "quite drunk". After stumbling (or rather, being dragged by the Dukes of Bedford and

Roxburghe) up the aisle, he barely stifled his sobs when nobody objected to the proceedings. With the ordeal over, he spent most of wedding night unconscious on the floor of their bedchamber. The marriage itself was no more successful, and by all accounts the nuptial bed was abandoned as soon as possible. EB

HOW OLD IS THE CAT FLAP?

◎ Cats were popular 9,500 years ago for their rat-catching skills – and it is thought they have been domesticated as long as 12,000 years – so it's probable that cat flaps are ancient. But, in Britain at least, evidence dates back to the medieval era. In Geoffrey Chaucer's *The Miller's Tale*, a character drops to his knees to peek through a door: "An hole he foond, full owe upon a bord, Ther as the cat was wont in for to crepe".

But if you want to see an old cat-hole up close,



you can spot one at Chetham Library, in Manchester, built in 1421. You can also visit Exeter Cathedral, where the clock-tower was so bedevilled by mice chewing on the ropes that it possibly inspired the nursery rhyme *Hickory, Dickory, Dock, the Mouse Ran Up The Clock*. This charming tale is hard to prove, but the 17th century cat flap in the tower door is very much real. GJ

IN OR OUT?

Even ancient cat owners got tired of standing at the door, waiting for their felines to make up their minds

WHICH MONARCH HAD THE LONGEST REIGN?

◎ King Sobhuza II of Swaziland, whose death in 1982 ended a whopping 82 year reign, was king since he was a baby. A clear winner you may think but as a Queen regent ruled during his minority, he was technically king for 61 years.

The award could go to Pharaoh Pepi II Nefekare, who took the Egyptian throne aged six c2278 BC, but the sources describing his reign are not reliable. Allegedly, he ruled for a staggering 94 years. GJ

**LONGBOW**

Measuring 2 metres long, each bow was made from a single piece of yew or elm, with a string of flax or hemp.

HELMET

Archers wore lighter, open-sided helmets such as the capeline or sallet.

GAMBESON

This quilted doublet had multiple lining layers for protection.

BUCKLER

This small shield was used both as protection and weapon in close combat.

DAGGER

The 'bollock' dagger, named for the shape of its hilt, was used to finish off fallen knights.

ARROWS

Archers ensured quick access to their arrows by planting them in the ground in front of them.

DEFENSIVE STAKES

Wooden posts spiked the ground in front of the archers to repel enemy cavalry.

DESIGN OF THE TIMES**ENGLISH ARCHER**

How did English soldiers of the Middle Ages defeat armoured French troops with just a simple wooden bow?

The longbow, introduced by the Welsh in the 12th century, was seen as a lower-class weapon in an era when armies largely comprised mounted knights protected by heavy armour. Simple it may have been, but the longbow was incredibly effective – as English troops famously demonstrated at the Battle of Agincourt in 1415, when Henry V's archers, though vastly outnumbered, decimated a French army of aristocratic knights. The ability to shoot up to a dozen arrows a minute from long range – over 300 metres – meant that English and Welsh archers were fearsome adversaries.

**FINGER TAB**

Strapped to the right hand, this protected the fingers from bowstring friction.

ARROW TIPS

Arrows with large tips penetrated armour, while double-edged tips were used against infantry and at shorter distances.

**QUIVER**

Each archer carried 24 to 36 arrows in his quiver, in clusters of 12.

SWORD

A large blade was vital in hand-to-hand close combat.

WRIST GUARD


A leather brace protected the forearm from the twang of the bowstring.



HOW DID THEY...

EQUIP THE BISMARCK?

Germany's most famous battleship was also one of its largest – but operated for just nine months before a battle with British warships in May 1941 sent it to the bottom of the Atlantic

 The *Bismarck* and its sister ship, the *Tirpitz*, were the largest battleships ever built by the German Navy. Construction began in 1936, and the *Bismarck* launched in front of 60,000 people in 1939. Finally commissioned on 24 August 1940, in May 1941 it was dispatched on its one and only mission – to raid Allied ships carrying supplies across the Atlantic from America to Britain. It was targeted by the Royal Navy, and destroyed HMS *Hood* at the Battle of Denmark Strait – the *Bismarck*'s last successful action.



RANGEFINDERS

Control posts in the prow and stern directed main and secondary artillery fire using optical and radio telemetry to pinpoint targets.

BIGGER, HEAVIER, FASTER

The *Bismarck*'s armour weighed 19,082 tonnes – nearly half its standard displacement of 52,600 tonnes; the command deck was protected by 350mm-thick steel. Though 251 metres long and with a beam of 36 metres, the *Bismarck* could still reach speeds of over 30 knots.

HULL

The ship's hull was fitted with *Magnetischer Eigenschutz* ('Magnetic Self-Protection') to defend against magnetically fired mines and torpedoes.

GRUPPENHORCHGERÄT (GHG) MICROPHONES

The 'Group Listening Device', an array of microphones on the sides of the hull, detected torpedoes, submarines and ships, and could determine speed, heading and engine type.

MAIN GUNS

The *Bismarck*'s most powerful weapons were its eight SK-C/34 380mm guns, mounted on double turrets at the bow and stern of the battleship.

ENGINE ROOM

Twelve Wagner boilers and three sets of Blohm & Voss turbines generated up to 150,170 horsepower.



RADAR

The *Bismarck* was equipped with three FuMO 23 search radar sets – one mounted on each of the forward and stern rangefinders, and one on the foretop.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS

The ship carried an array of anti-aircraft weapons, including single- and quadruple-mounted 20mm guns at various points around the deck.

THE END

Having been hit during the Battle of Denmark Strait, the *Bismarck* was pursued by the British Navy for three days as it retreated to occupied France. Badly damaged by air-launched torpedoes, the *Bismarck* was scuttled by its crew and sank on 27 May 1941.

FLOATPLANE

SECONDARY GUNS

Twelve double-mounted medium-caliber SK-C/28 150mm guns provided backup for the main 380mm weapons.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS

The biggest anti-aircraft weapons were 16 double-mounted 105mm guns.

PROPELLERS

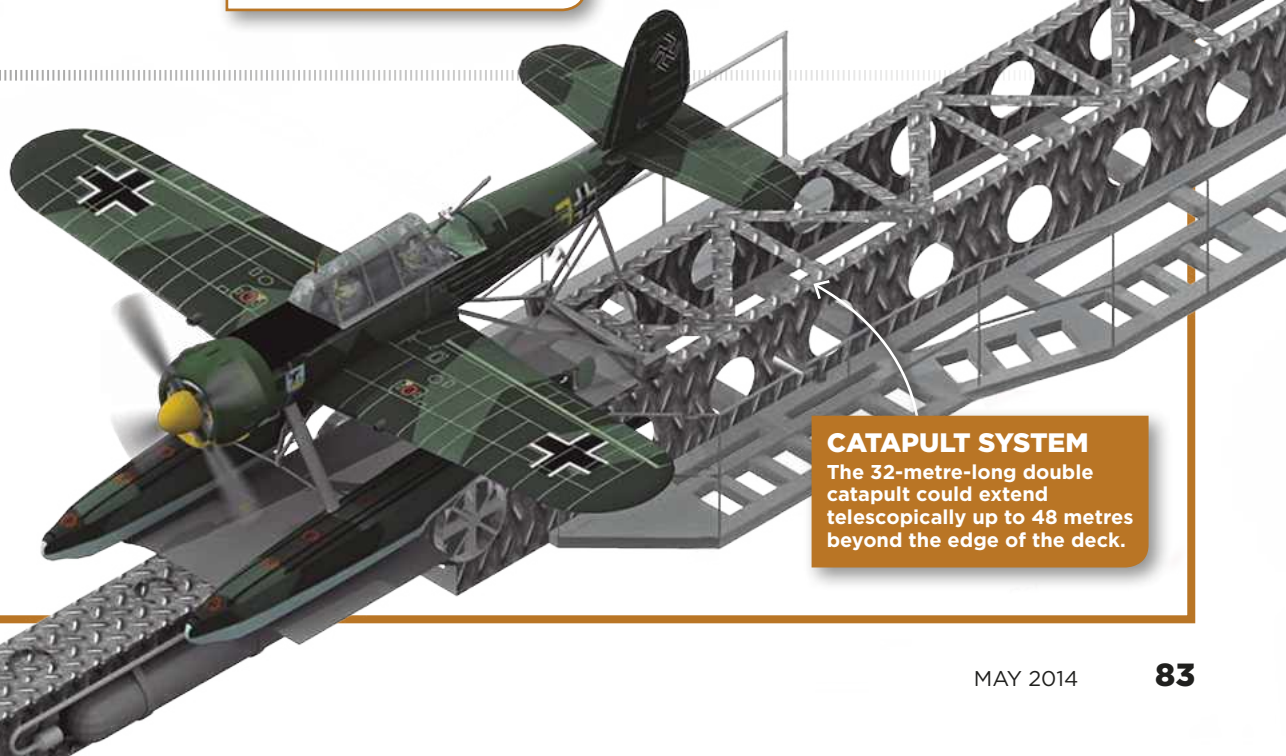
The ship was driven by three 4.7-metre diameter manganese-bronze screws turning at 270 revolutions per minute.

ARADO AR 196 A-3 FLOATPLANES

The *Bismarck* carried four reconnaissance floatplanes, housed in a large central hangar. They were launched with a double-ended catapult system in the middle of the deck and, having landed in the sea near the battleship, were lifted back on board using a rotating crane.

CATAPULT SYSTEM

The 32-metre-long double catapult could extend telescopically up to 48 metres beyond the edge of the deck.



WHICH IS THE OLDEST PUB IN ENGLAND?



The answer to this question rather depends on what criteria you use – do you mean, for instance, the oldest building or the longest continuous use as a pub? Several establishments lay claim to the title, based on the different options. The Old Ferryboat at St Ives,

Cambridgeshire, appears in the Domesday Book and claims to date back to AD 560, though the current building is far newer.

Ye Olde Fighting Cocks at St Albans has been operating from the current building since 1485. Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem, in Nottingham, claims to have been founded in 1189 to cater to men setting out on Crusade, but the current building is only about 350 years old.

The Bingley Arms in Bardsey, Yorkshire, claims that a pub mentioned in parish records of AD 953 refer to itself, but this is far from clear and the current building is only about 400 years old.

BOTTOMS UP
Inns and taverns – and the beer they serve – have long been an important part of British society

DID YOU KNOW?

SIZE MATTERS

Fishbourne Palace, in West Sussex, is the **largest Roman home** anywhere north of the Alps. When it was first built, it was larger than Buckingham Palace is today, and had the earliest gardens ever found in the UK.

Investigations at the Eagle and Child at Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, have proved that some of the timbers used in its construction are over 1,000 years old, but the building has not always been a pub.

Ye Olde Man and Scythe in Bolton has a cellar that dates back to before 1251, though the building above was rebuilt in 1636. **RM**

Could medieval criminals really claim sanctuary in churches?



Yes. The concept that you could avoid prosecution by getting to a sacred place was accepted in England well before the Norman Conquest. Some churches, for example Durham Cathedral (pictured), had special knockers, which a fugitive had only to touch to be safe. Sometimes, like at Beverley in East Riding of Yorkshire, the right of sanctuary extended beyond the church to a safe area often marked by stone crosses.

Some sites offered permanent sanctuary, but normally a person had 40 days in which either to stand trial or leave the country. If they refused both, they could be starved into submission. If they



HANDLE OF GOD
Just a touch of this knocker would protect fugitives from the law

chose the second option they were given a special outfit to wear and a staff or cross to carry, and told to make for a particular port.

In 1486, it was ruled that sanctuary did not apply to cases of treason. This was bad news for Humphrey Stafford, who had been hauled out of sanctuary in Culham Church, Oxon, after rebelling against Henry VII – he was hanged, drawn and quartered. Shortly after this, Pope Innocent VIII declared that second offenders could not claim sanctuary. Both Henry VIII and James I further limited the right of sanctuary, and it finally disappeared totally in the 18th century. **JH**

WHO WAS THE FIRST ENGLISH WOMAN TO FLY?



On 29 June 1785, nine months after Italian pioneer

Vincenzo Lunardi first flew over English soil in his hot air balloon, a huge crowd gathered in London to see actress Letitia Ann Sage take off.

Described kindly by *The Times* as a lady “of considerable magnitude”, she left room for only one other traveller, George Biggin. While she marvelled at the scenery, Biggin manned the controls. After 90 minutes, they landed rather roughly in a Harrow field, and were soundly “abused” by an angry farmer. **EB**



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British soldiers, near South Parade Pier on Southsea seafront, about to board a landing
craft to go to Normandy, June 1944. Image courtesy of The News, Portsmouth

Portsmouth
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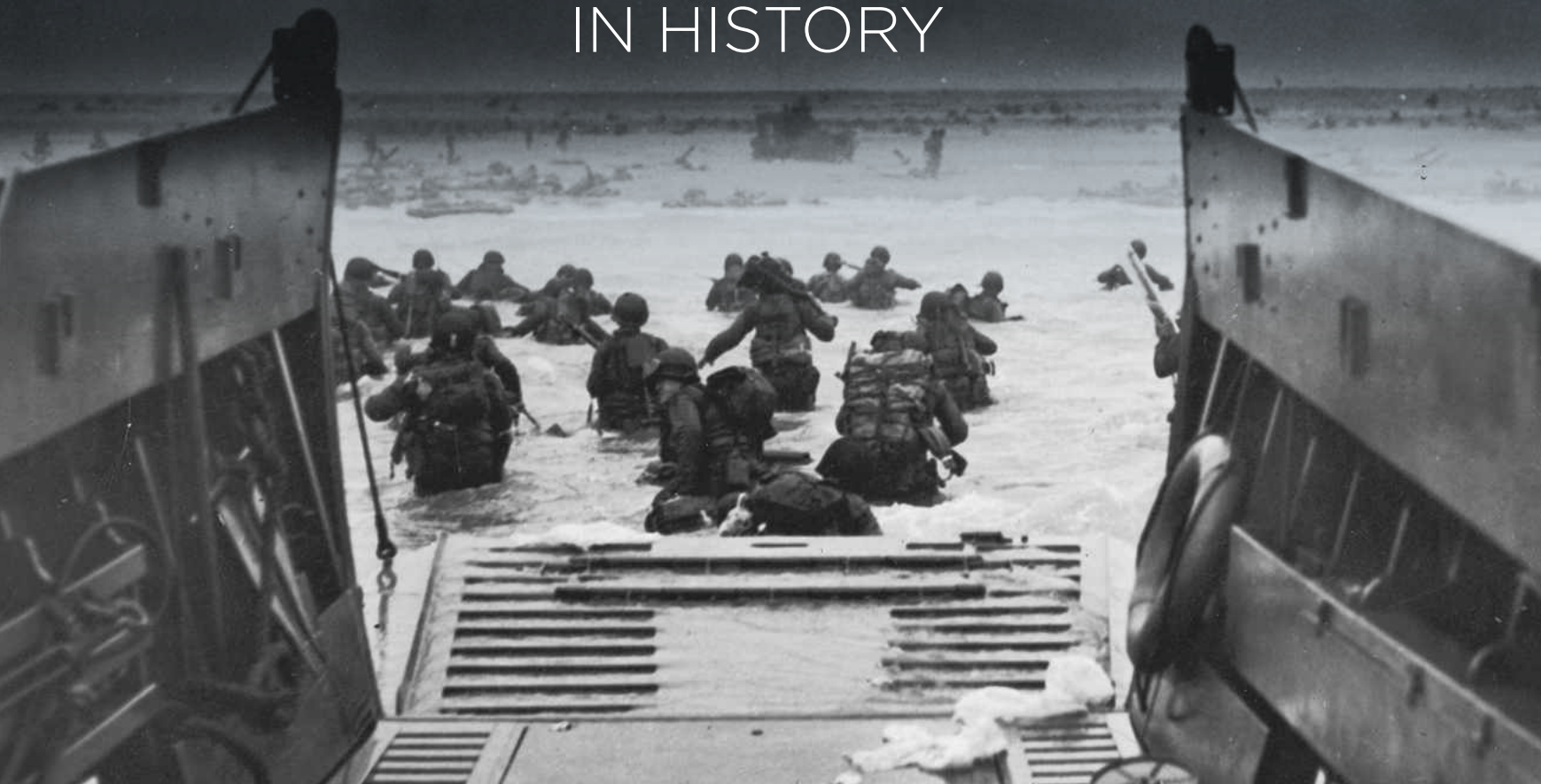
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ON OUR RADAR

What's caught our attention this month...



From World War I re-enactments to workshops for the children, there is plenty to enjoy



DVD

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A weekend of fun

Make your way to one of over 80 museums across Scotland taking part in the **Festival of Museums**. Over one weekend, there is a host of activities and

events.

The festival runs 16-18 May. Find out what's on at www.festivalofmuseums.com

GRAPHIC NOVEL

A new read

Alan Cowsill and Lalit Kumar Sharma's graphic novel **World War One** takes us right into the trenches. From bloody battles to daily life, see the war through the eyes of two young men sent to the front line. Published by Campfire, £7.99.

TWITTER

Who to follow

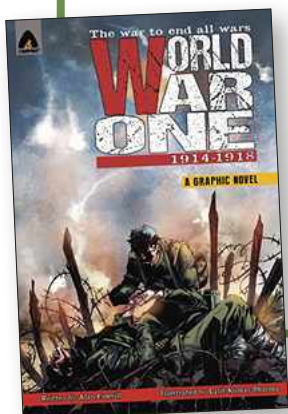
Each tweet gives a glimpse into the past, through extraordinary rare photographs. twitter.com/HistoryInPics



TOUR

Do not miss...

The IWM North invites you to see **Horrible Histories: Rotten Rationing Big Picture Show** where you can discover how people grew their own food during World War II. Showings run until 17 May. www.iwm.org.uk/exhibitions/iwm-north/horrible-histories



BROCH OF GURNESS
One of the best-preserved
Iron Age settlements – or
brochs – in Scotland.
Find out more on page 90



STEP BACK IN TIME

While many Iron Age settlements have vanished or cannot be visited, there are plenty of sites around Britain open to the public. The wooden structures have perished but the stone foundations remain and have plenty of secrets to uncover. From the buildings to the objects found inside them, Iron Age sites offer a chance to go back to a different age...

STONE WALLS

Less common than walls made of timber or wattle, the foundations of free-standing stone walls may be seen, but most masonry took the form of earth banks.

HOW TO VISIT...

IRON AGE SETTLEMENTS

Rupert Matthews explores the secrets and treasures lurking in the Iron Age settlements found throughout Britain

The advent of the Iron Age, when iron tools became widely used, began around 800 BC. Even when southern Britain was conquered by the Roman armies of Emperor Claudius in AD 43, Iron Age culture did not end. Those areas free of Rome continued much as before, and within Roman territory, many people continued a largely Iron Age lifestyle.

The most impressive of the sites are the so-called 'hill forts'. In fact, these were more like fortified towns than military forts, with ramparts made of timber, earth and rock. It is thought their elaborate gateways and walls may have been as much about status display as they were military defences. Certainly some hill forts had carved chalk figures, which could be seen from miles away.

Inside the hill forts were houses, animal pens and vegetable or fruit gardens. Not much of these survive today, though the bumps

and dips of grain stores and house platforms can still be made out.

IRON AGE INDUSTRY

As the economy was based around farming, ditched enclosures used to confine cattle, sheep or goats were common and can still be seen, as can deep pits used to store grain. The wooden buildings have vanished but many stone foundations still exist.

Examples of pottery are found at most sites, and it's thought that this was a local trade, with craftsmen only selling to nearby settlements. Some coastal areas produced salt by drying sea water, which was then traded as much as 50 miles away. Mines extracting gold, tin or silver produced goods that were traded even further, sometimes to Europe. 📍

TURN OVER...

for six of the best Iron Age sites to visit



SACRIFICES

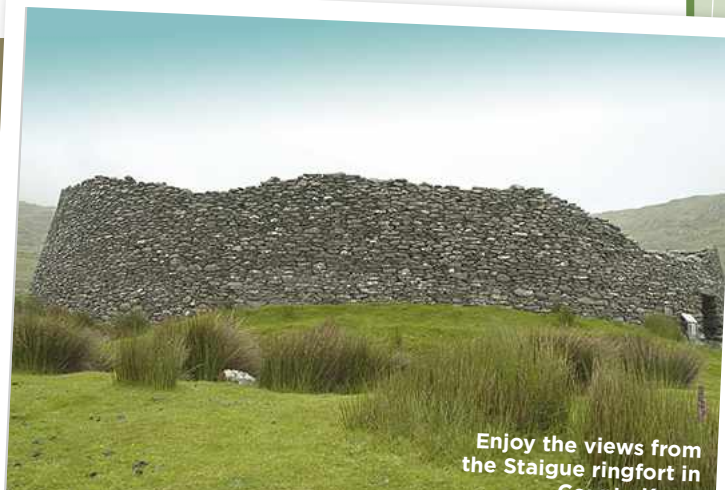
Many items found at Iron Age sites are thought to have been sacrificial. These might include weapons, jewellery or other items that were deliberately broken, then offered to the gods by being thrown into a lake, marsh or river, or buried.

POTTERY

Iron Age pottery was of a high quality and often used sophisticated techniques, such as adding a coat of iron oxide, which could be burnished to shine like polished metal. Most pottery was made locally and elaborately decorated.

RAMPARTS

Most Iron Age sites were surrounded by earthen ramparts topped by wooden palisades. Isolated farms had defences to keep out wolves, bears and bandits, but the massive defences around larger sites could keep out determined armies.



Enjoy the views from the Staigue ringfort in County Kerry



ROADS

Streets within settlements might be surfaced with gravel or stone slabs, but longer roads were usually unsurfaced. Logs were laid down over marshy ground, and causeways were built to cross bogs.

HUT RINGS

There were many circular buildings in Iron Age Britain. The 'hut rings' can still be seen today – dark marks in the soil hint at the wooden foundations that once lay there.

WELL

Many villagers would have used water from nearby rivers. Defensive sites such as hill forts needed secure sources of water, so wells were dug to reach underground water.

OVENS

Foods such as stews, porridges and soups were made in large pots suspended over a fire. Bread and biscuits were baked in ovens heated with burning wood, then cleared out for the food to be cooked.

SIX OF THE BEST IRON AGE SITES TO VISIT



GRAVE DISCOVERY
Maiden Castle includes an Iron Age cemetery, where victims of often-horrific fatal injuries are interred

MAIDEN CASTLE Dorset

The largest hill fort in Britain is Maiden Castle. Founded in 600 BC, it displays many typical features of the Iron Age. The ramparts stretched over 6m tall, topped by wooden defences. The gates were strengthened by stone walling and massive timber

posts. Hundreds of buildings occupied the interior, with an organised street plan. The site was abandoned when the Romans invaded. In about AD 370, a Roman temple was built, the ruins of which remain.

www.english-heritage.org.uk

NAVAN FORT Armagh



Navan Fort – home of Ulster's celebrated first-century standing army, the Red Branch Knights – is dominated by the huge mound 40m across and 6m high. The fort is surrounded by a large bank and ditch. It was the ceremonial centre for the Ulaidh dynasty, which ruled most of the north of Ireland in pagan times.

www.armagh.co.uk/navan-centre-fort

BROCH OF GURNESS Orkney

Perched on a hill overlooking the Eynhallow Sound stands the iron village known as the Broch of Gurness (pictured on page 88). The small stone huts cluster around a massive defensive tower, which

has walls over 4 metres thick and reaches to a height of some 3.5 metres. It may have been the home of the King of Orkney, who made peace with Rome in AD 43.

www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

WANDLEBURY HILL FORT East Anglia

Built around 400 BC, the fort controlled the trade route from Norfolk to Wiltshire called the Icknield Way. The twin rings of ramparts enclose about 6 hectares of land. There were formerly

chalk hill figures carved on the hill, and local legend tells of a ferocious fairy warrior. The site is now the centre of Wandlebury country park.

www.cambridgeppf.org

UFFINGTON WHITE HORSE Oxfordshire

Galloping across a hill below the ramparts of a hillfort, the Uffington White Horse was formed by removing the turf to reveal the white chalk beneath. Dating between 1740 BC and 210 BC, the horse features on coins from the area. You can also visit the nearby hill fort, the Blowing Stone and Wayland Smithy's monument.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/white-horse-hill



DOLAUCOTHI GOLD MINE Carmarthenshire

Most of the remains at Dolaucothi are Roman, but gold was extracted here in Iron Age times with locals panning the river. The Romans were the first to mine the

Welsh countryside. Marks made by hammers and picks can still be seen today, 2,000 years later.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/dolaucothi-gold-mines



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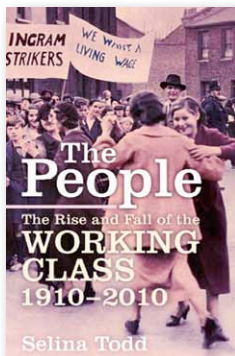
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BOOKS

BOOK OF THE MONTH



The People: the Rise and Fall of the Working Class 1910-2010

by Selina Todd

John Murray, £25, hardback

What was life like for 'ordinary' working-class Britons in the 20th century? This compelling new book puts the experiences of domestic servants, working fathers, older people and many others at the heart of its story. From the spread of voting rights and

the birth of the welfare state to the growth of poverty in the 1970s and '80s, Todd explores how the lives of a vivid cast of real-life characters were shaped by the social, political and economic forces around them.



**UPSTAIRS
DOWNSTAIRS**
Domestic service was a key trade in the 1920s



MEET THE AUTHOR

Selina Todd discovers that there was more to being a working-class hero than becoming a political activist, and that home is where the heart of the country was

“Working-class people were not heroes or victims”

Why do you think the role of working-class people has often been neglected?

History has traditionally been about 'great men' – those in power. Although that changed in the sixties, many accounts were still focused on the roles of working-class people as political activists.

While that is important, these histories neglected the thousands of people who couldn't be celebrated as socialist heroes – particularly women, including domestic servants, wives and mothers, who were often too busy to be politically active.

I wanted to examine people's everyday lives, and how inequality could lead them to become Conservative as well as Socialist.

How similar was working-class life in 1910 compared to a century later?

All too similar! In 1910, there was only very basic welfare provision and the gap between the richest and the poorest was huge. Millions of working-class people did not have a vote. In 2010, service work – such as cleaning – was rising while secure jobs were declining, and fewer people bothered to vote for politicians who didn't seem to represent their concerns.

What most surprised you when writing the book?

Firstly, the importance of domestic servants. They were the largest single group of workers until the forties, but we know very little about them because the vast majority were women.

The other thing was the experience of working-class fathers. They have always had a bad press, often accused of being neglectful or authoritarian. But many of them really wanted to be caring fathers, and were central to their children's lives. They often had to make heartbreaking decisions, too. For instance, John

McGuirk, a labourer from Merseyside, had to choose between being a good wage-earner – which would mean working long shifts away from home, but would enable his family to afford a new council house – or taking a poorly paid job that enabled him to see his children. He chose the former, but still regrets missing out on his children growing up.

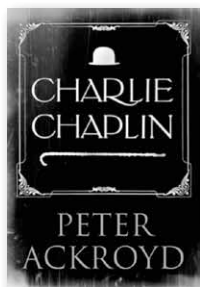
What impression of working-class life would you like readers to leave with?

That working-class people were not heroes or victims, but were often pioneers of change – as teenagers as well as activists, and mothers as well as workers.



MEN AT WORK
Fathers often had to choose between work and family time

THE BEST OF THE REST



Charlie Chaplin

By Peter Ackroyd
Chatto and Windus, £14.99,
272 pages, hardback

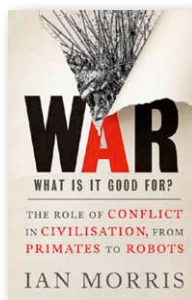
His face is one of the most recognisable in cinema's history, but how much do we really know about Charlie Chaplin? This sparkling biography delves into the personal and private life of the fascinating, multi-talented 'Little Tramp'.



Zeppelin Nights: London in the First World War

By Jerry White
Bodley Head, £25,
400 pages, hardback

From the fear of night-time bombardment to the new opportunities on offer for women, World War I shaped London and its people in a huge number of ways. This vibrant book captures a city that remained grimly determined in the face of an unprecedented assault.



War - What is it Good For?: the Role of Conflict in Civilisation, from Primates to Robots

by Ian Morris
Profile, £25,
448 pages, hardback

The idea that war can ever have had any kind of positive impact on human history might be a controversial one, but Stanford University professor Ian Morris persuasively argues the case in this epic investigation into conflict and violence.

READ UP ON...

THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE

BEST FOR...
A QUICK
OVERVIEW

Turkey: a Short History

By Norman Stone
Thames and Hudson,
£9.95, 192 pages,
paperback



Noted historian (and Turkey resident) Norman Stone races through the rise and fall of the continent-spanning Ottoman Empire in this entertaining, insightful account. Packing ten centuries into under 200 pages isn't easy, but this book does it with aplomb.

BEST FOR...
AN IN-DEPTH LOOK

Constantinople: City of the World's Desire, 1452-1924

By Philip Mansel
John Murray, £16.99,
544 pages, paperback



From sultans and slaves to food and fashion, Philip Mansel's compelling book explores life in Constantinople, and how it was influenced by its position at the heart of a dynasty that spanned an array of diverse nations and cultures.

BEST FOR...
THE EMPIRE IN
PICTURES

Images of the Ottoman Empire

By Charles Newton
V&A Publishing, £30,
128 pages, hardback



The kaleidoscopic array of landscapes and lifestyles of the sprawling Ottoman Empire is explored through hundreds of pictures from the V&A Museum, vividly documenting everything from court life and street scenes to ancient relics.

LET THERE BE LIGHT



The Middle Ages: an Illustrated History of the Medieval World

by Christopher Dyer & Anita Baker
Andre Deutsch, £30, 96 pages, hardback

Explore the treasures and terrors of the Middle Ages in this lavishly illustrated book, complete with reproductions of documents including maps and pages from the Gutenberg Bible, one of the most important books in western history.

SIGHT & SOUND

TV & RADIO

The Norse whisperer

Epic drama following a Viking warrior determined to conquer new land across the seas

Vikings

TV Sky HD

Tuesday 6 May, 10pm

The wildly popular History Channel series starring Travis Fimmel and Katheryn Winnick premieres on Sky HD this month.

Inspired by the Norsemen of early medieval Scandinavia, the nine-part drama enters the

brutal and mysterious world of Ragnar Lothbrok – a restless Viking warrior and farmer who longs to explore and raid distant shores across the ocean.

His mission puts him on a collision course with local chieftain Earl Haraldson. Soon, the scene is set for bloodshed. A story of family and comradeship, the passionate drama follows Lothbrok and his band of brothers as he rises to

power, carving out his position as king of the Viking tribes. It is also a tale of love, tragedy, and of a changing world in which Christian morals clash with the Vikings' pagan society.

The Irish/Canadian series is penned by Michael Hirst – the brains behind Academy Award-winning film *Elizabeth*, and the Emmy- and Golden Globe-nominated series *The Tudors*.



People in glass houses

Rooms with a View

RADIO BBC Radio 4

27 May

From ancient stained glass to towering skyscrapers, few things demonstrate our social status as clearly as windows. Historian and architecture critic Tom Dyckhoff looks through these holes in the wall to reveal the fascinating stories that inspired them.

He visits an Elizabethan mansion built when glass was more valuable than gold, and standing in one of the world's tallest glass buildings, he asks what price we pay for a room with a view.

All the president men

The Ultimate Guide to the Presidents

TV Sky H2

May

This mini-series, which traces the history of the Oval Office over the past 200 years, continues on Sky H2 this month. Telling stories about the 43 men who have served as commander-in-chief, the series

reveals how each of America's leaders dealt with the expectations and challenges of his time.

The show also explains the 1787 creation of America's system of government – a democracy with powers separated among the legislative, judicial and executive.

This month's episodes are Changing of the Guard, Hail to the Chief, and Mantle of Power.



Quirke of fate

Quirke

TV BBC One

May

Amid the smoky, damp streets of 1950s Dublin, we follow Quirke, chief pathologist in the city morgue, as he investigates three sudden deaths and finds a link to his own life. Over three 90-minute episodes based on Benjamin Black's books, Quirke peels back the layers of his family history.

APPS

GSCE History

FREE/£0.69 - Revision Buddies

Whether you're looking to learn more or put your knowledge to the test, this app is not to be missed. Featuring more than 1,500 multiple-choice questions on both world wars, 20th-century America and the Cold War, it's a quick and easy way of brushing up on key history topics. And for those with kids taking GCSEs, the app covers the full Edexcel syllabus and the majority of the AQA syllabus.



Museum of London: Street Museum

FREE
Thumbspark Limited



Explore the history of some of London's most iconic spots with this award-winning app from the Museum of London. Selected a destination, or use GPS to pinpoint your location, for historical images and facts. Ideal for anyone on a tour of the big smoke, or for a 'home visit'.

Soviet Posters HD

£1.49
Evolution Games LLP

Browse a stunning collection of more than 700 old Russian and Soviet posters about politics, the Industrial Revolution, culture and the military, before downloading your favourites or sending them to friends via email. You can also share them on Facebook.



PODCASTS

Dan Carlin's Hardcore History

Don't be put off by the title – this podcast is suited to history lovers at all levels. Fun, informative and thought-provoking, it tackles questions like 'Was Alexander the Great as bad a person as Adolf Hitler?' and 'Which US president was the worst?'

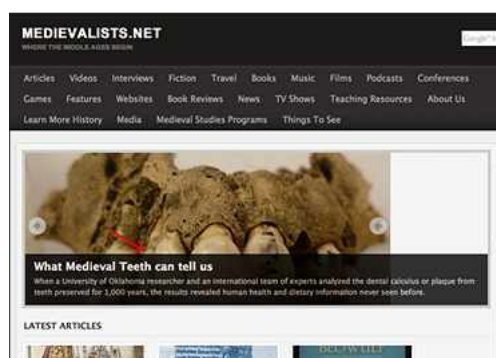
Norman Centuries – A Norman History Podcast by Lars Brownworth

Discover more about the people who transformed Anglo-Saxon England, with this podcast from historian Lars Brownworth. The series has finished, but you can still download previous episodes on William the Conqueror, the Battle of Hastings and the first-ever Norman.

Art History Podcast

Take a whistle-stop tour of some of history's most famous artistic masterpieces. Each episode is just a few minutes' long, yet provides thoughtful analysis of famous works.

WEBSITES



Medievalists.net

www.medievalists.net

If you love the weird and wonderful, this website is not to be missed. Packed with bizarre facts about medieval sex, pet names, table manners and games, it brings the Middle Ages to life. It also keeps you up-to-date with the latest history news, features videos and TV reviews, and has tips for more websites and apps.



The Second World War – Spartacus Educational

www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/2WW.htm

How much do you really know about appeasement? And could you explain the Final Solution? This website is effectively a World War II encyclopedia, summarising the key facts and explaining how events unfolded. Ideal for anyone looking to better understand the basics.



Famous trials

law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/ftrials.htm

Find out everything you need to know about the most notorious trials in history, with this website set up by the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC). It features images, timelines, transcript excerpts and video clips, and puts events into context.

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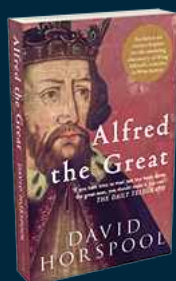


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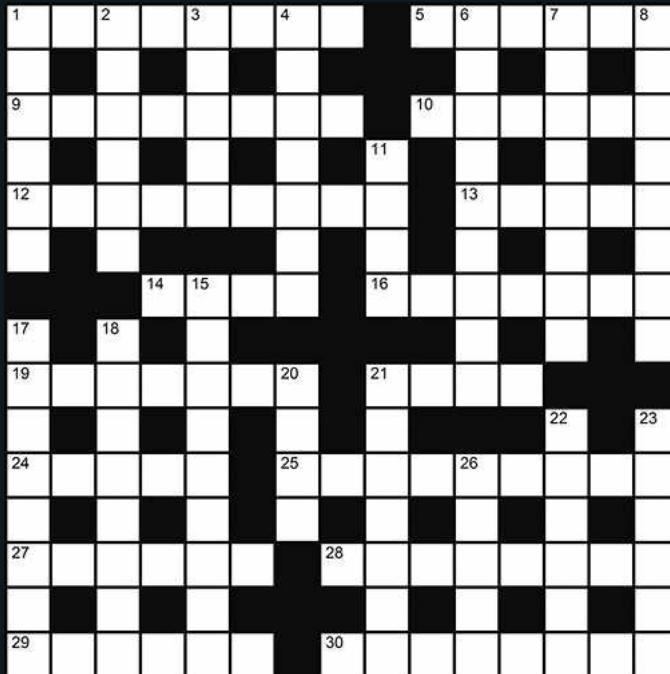


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CROSSWORD N° 3

If you think your knowledge of history is up to the test, you can be a prize winner...

Set by Richard Smyth



ACROSS

- 1** Relating to the reign of James I of England (and VI of Scotland) (8)
5 John ____ (1932-2009), US novelist, author of *Rabbit, Run* (1960) (6)
9 John ____ (1899-1953), English serial killer (8)
10 Massachussetts Bay ____, 17th-century New England settlement (6)
12 Emblematic personification of Great Britain (9)
13 John of ____ (1340-99), third son of Edward III and first Duke of Lancaster (5)
14 David ____ (1908-91), English director of films including *The Bridge On The River Kwai* (1957) (4)

- 16** Caribbean island described by Columbus as "the fairest isle that eyes have beheld" (7)
19 Round building in Woolwich, London, designed by architect John Nash (7)
21 "____ will make us powerful; butter will only make us fat" - Hermann Goering, 1936 (4)
24 *Twelve Years A ____*, 1853 memoir by farmer and violinist Solomon Northup (5)
25 John ____ (1878-1967), Poet Laureate from 1930 (9)
27 Baltic state, independent since 21 August 1991 (6)
28 1940 animated film by Walt Disney (8)
29 Historic city of North Rhine-Westphalia (6)

- 30** Term for the Middle Eastern territory contested during the Crusades (4,4)

DOWN

- 1** Sir Derek ____ (1938-), English Shakespearean actor (6)
2 6th-century Saxon King, founder of the kingdom of Wessex (6)
3 Ancient port city of Iraq (5)
4 French city, seat of the Papacy from 1309 to 1377 (7)
6 'The ____ Poet', nickname for Robert Burns (1759-96) (9)
7 Family of Native American tribes, including the Mohawk, Seneca and Oneida (8)
8 Queen Nefertiti or Gamal Abdel Nasser, say (8)
11 Pilgrimage to Mecca; one of the pillars of Islam (4)
15 British comedian (1925-99), best known for his double act with Eric Morecambe (5,4)
17 South American capital built in the 20th century to designs by Lúcio Costa and Oscar Niemayer (8)
18 US record label founded in 1947 (8)
20 River of south-west Crimea, site of an 1854 battle (4)
21 Political police of Nazi Germany (7)
22 Country ruled by Cyrus the Great from 559 to 530 BC (6)
23 11th-century English King, known as 'the Confessor' (6)
26 Stage-name of the silent film comedian Roscoe Arbuckle (1887-1933) (5)

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Firearms: an Illustrated History

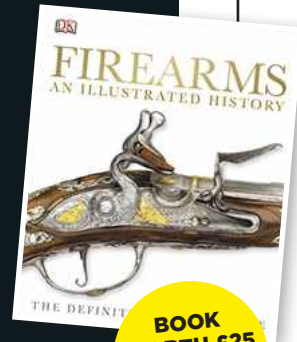
The Definitive Visual Guide

From muskets to artillery, this guide charts the evolution of the firearm and how it has changed the world.

Published by DK, £25.

HOW TO ENTER

Post entries to **History Revealed, May 2014 Crossword, PO Box 501, Leicester LE94 0AA** or email them to **may2014@historyrevealedcomps.co.uk** by noon on **21 May 2014**. By entering, participants agree to be bound by the terms and conditions shown in the box below. Immediate Media Co Ltd, publishers of *History Revealed*, would love to keep you informed by post or telephone of special offers and promotions from the Immediate Media Co Group. Please write 'Do Not Contact IMC' if you prefer not to receive such information by post or phone. If you would like to receive this information by email, please write your email address on the entry. You may unsubscribe from receiving these messages at any time. For more about the Immediate Privacy Policy see the box below.



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SOLUTION N° 2



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BE MY GUEST

Every issue, we ask a well-known personality to choose five guests from history to invite to a fantasy dinner party. This month's host is Michelin-starred TV chef **Tom Kerridge**

HENRY VIII

Somebody who was so headstrong, who achieved whatever they wanted and let nothing stand in their way, doing exactly what he wanted while having fantastic banquets – what a guy! My food is hearty, flavoursome food, which is what it was in Tudor times, so I think he'd like what I'd serve. The last thing I'd want is for him to be upset and have me beheaded!

FERNAND POINT

He was a French chef with three Michelin stars who had a restaurant called La Pyramide in Vienne, near Lyon. After the Nazi invasion, when the German officers started eating there, he refused to serve them. At 6'4" and 20 stone, he was a great, almost cartoon character-like French chef.

SIR MATT BUSBY

I'm a Man United fan, so sitting around a table with Matt Busby would be great. There were plenty of other managers I could have chosen, like Alf Ramsey or Bobby Robson. I could have chosen players like George Best or Duncan Edwards, but they're individuals. For me in my restaurant, everything is always about the teamwork, about believing in one person's vision.



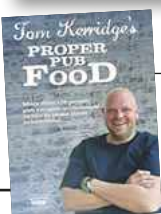
AYRTON SENNA

Senna was someone who was unquestionably a driven individual, someone who put himself on the edge all the time to achieve greatness. For me, that's hugely admirable. There was never a 'stop' point for him; I like the idea of that person being around the table. I like extreme people and he was one of the most extreme people you could ever imagine.

"THE LAST THING I'D WANT IS FOR HENRY VIII TO BE UPSET WITH MY FOOD AND HAVE ME BEHEADED!"

AUGUSTE ESCOFFIER

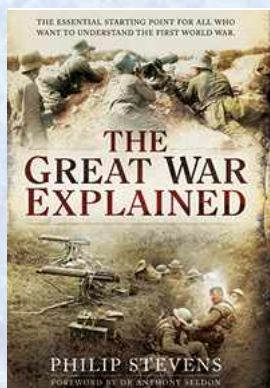
Another chef who was at the forefront of French cuisine – the king of all chefs in that French style of cooking with stocks and sauces and butter. He's the guy who made it all work. His methods are very similar to those I use now. Chefs love cooking for other chefs and I'd love to show him how his French cuisine is being done, 100 years later in Great Britain.



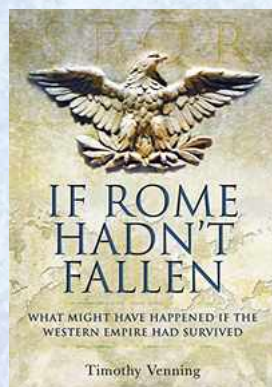
Tom Kerridge is a double-Michelin-starred chef and a BBC presenter. *Tom Kerridge's Proper Pub Food* is published by Absolute Press. www.thehandandflowers.co.uk

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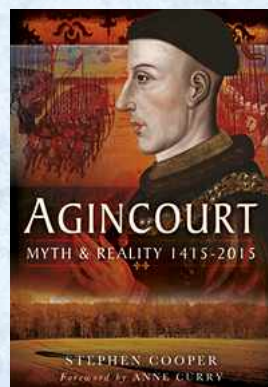
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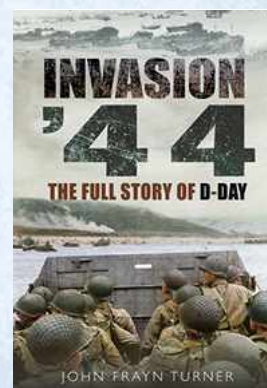
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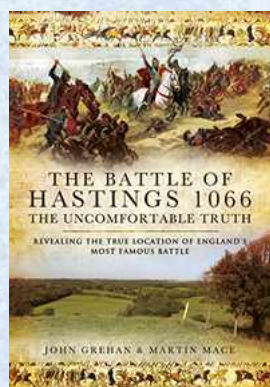
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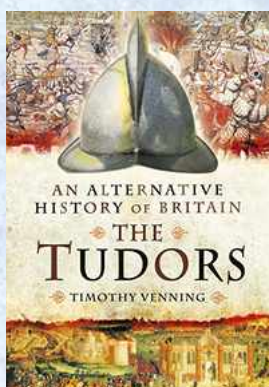
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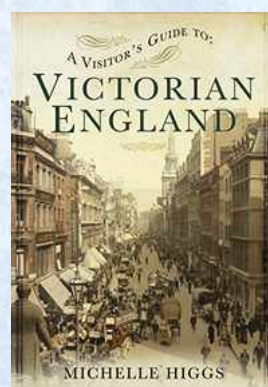
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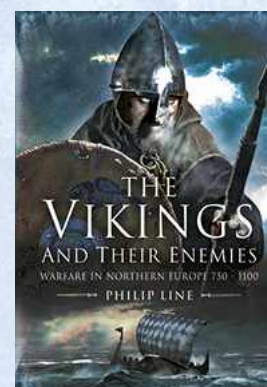
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